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For Russians, An Election On Future of Democracy

By Daniel Williams

ST. PETERSBURG — h's a tough race in District 50 between Oleg Sergeyev, Oleg Sergeyev and Oleg

Sergeyev.

Mr. Sergeyev the incumbent is running for his seat in the St. Petersbarg.

city assembly against two candidates

of the same name who represent no of the same name who represent no parties, made no public appearances and did not use their free television time. The scam is only one in a cavalcade of dity tricks in a campaign marked by vote buying, false absence ballot-box suffing and intimidation. The election is also being held under the thadow of a major assassingtion. the shadow of a major assassination.

the shadow of a major assassination.

The polls opened Sunday under snow and heavy police guard.

Many Russians regard the vote as the opening battle in a long and tense political season, the sinister atmosphere of this local election has taken on significance far from the winding canals of this stately city.

on significance for from the winding canals of this stately city.

National parliamentary elections are scheduled next year, and the presidential vote for 2000—assuming it is not pulled forward by the failure of the ailing President Boris Yelssin to serve all the price St. out his four-year term. If dirt buries St. Petersburg, a sophisticated city that was once the vanguard of Russian democ-racy, it can easily overwhelm future

The drama heightened dramatically Nov. 20 when guimen ambushed and killed Galina Staravoitova, a leading democratic activist who represent the city in the Duma, the lower house of Parliament. The shocking mander underlined the spiraling violence in Russia's second biggest city. More broadly, it raised the que



Mikhail Borodinsky searching Sunday for his candidate among the 577 names on the St. Petersburg ballot.



Counting Ballots Around the Globe

Hugo Chavez, the populist who was favored to win the presidential election Sunday in Venezuela, waving to supporters in Caracas. Page 3. • Taiwan voters chose stability over ideals in handing the Nationalist Party a crucial victory over the proindependence Democratic Progressive Party in mayoral and legislative elections. Page 4. • Nigerians also voted this weekend in local elections that observers described as a positive step toward the presidential vote in February. Page 12.

By Philip Shenon
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — With North Korea refusing to allow inspection of a huge underground construction site that could be used to hide a miclear reactor, Clinton administration officials acknowledge that a four-yearold agreement meant to freeze North Korea's nuclear weapons program could collapse within weeks.

The 1994 agreement, which the administration has nailed as among its prondest foreign policy achieve-

would build a nuclear arsenal. But the discovery of the huge underground installation and North Korea's continned development of ballistic missiles have led many administration officials to wonder whether the agree-

U.S. Pact With North Korea Is Nearing Collapse

ment will have to be scrapped.

Under the so-called Agreed Framework of 1994, the North Koreans were promised billions of dollars in energy assistance, including two new nuclear reactors, the waste from which would be far harder to turn into

In return, North Korea agreed to shut down its nuclear weapons program.

The North Koreans, frustrated by delays in the construction of the two new nuclear plants and by economic sanctions that have worsened a famine there, have described the administration's threat to break the agreement as virtually a declaration of war. Even by the usual standards of its overheated lanuage, recent statements on the issue by the North

Korean government have been fierce. "The U.S. imperialists are driving the situation to the brink of war," the official spokesman for the North

See KOREA, Page 4

U.S. Urging Allies To Refocus NATO

Europe Skeptical About Aiming At Weapons of Mass Destruction

By Steven Erlanger New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - The Clinton administration is urging its European allies to embark on an initiative to combat weapons of mass destruction as an example of the kinds of new threats a modernized, post-Soviet NATO must deal with in the next century, senior American and NATO-country officials

In a Brussels meeting this week of the North Atlantic Council, designed to set the agenda for the 50th-anniversary NATO summit meeting here in April, the Americans will propose a new NATO Center for Weapons of Mass Destruction, commonly referred to as "WMD."

The center will be a clearinghouse for The center will be a clearinghouse for increased intelligence-sharing by Washington intended to produce a more unified assessment of the threats posed both by states like Iran or Iraq and "non-state actors," like terrorist groups of the kind led by Osama bin Laden.

But the Americans are also pushing greater alliance collaboration to deter weapons of mass destruction and to defend allied populations and territory

fend allied populations and territory against them. Proposals include alliance vaccines, advanced protective outfits for the military, detective equipment and other collaborative research and development, so each country of the alliance does not have to bear the cost of cov-

ering every contingency on its own.
"This is a microcosm for the new NATO, and for its larger debates and dilemmas," a senior American official said. "We're trying to ensure that NATO makes it effectively and relevantly into the new era."

But the debate over weapons of mass destruction and what the North Atlantic Treaty Organization should do about them is also a microcosm for a more controversial discussion over how far NATO should move beyond its traditional role -- the collective defense of its members' territories — to what Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, in a memorandum to American ambassa-dors, calls "the broader concept of the defense of our common interests"— both in Europe and beyond.

NATO questions of mandate and reach are particularly sensitive after the Soviet collapse and while Europe pushes for a stronger political identity, with some muscle to match. While the United States and its overwhelmingly superior logistics and intelligence are considered mandatory for collective NATO action in Europe, whether in Bosnia or Kosovo, some Europeans also fear being made a junior partner to American strategic interests elsewhere such as the Middle East.

But American and British officials insist such fears are considerably and politically overblown. They argue that no one is trying to redefine Article 5, which mandates collective defense against attack, but to examine new ways, in this new world, that Article 5 could be triggered. While a Russian tank invasion is no longer a threat, a missile attack against Rome with a biological warhead on it would qualify as an Ar-

'Some don't like the idea because it

See NATO, Page 7

Drumbeat To Impeach **Clinton Gets** A Bit Louder

By Brian Knowlton

WASHINGTON - Republicans and Democrats said Sunday that the full House of Representatives was very likely to vote for at least one article of impeachment against President Bill Clin-

The comments indicated that the push for impeachment has picked up, and came as the House Judiciary Committee prepared for a grueling week. The panel notified the White House over the weekend that the president's lawyers would be given 30 hours — from 9 A.M. to midnight on both Tuesday and Wednesday — to present a defense against allegations that Mr. Clinton lied about his affair with the White House intern Monica Lewinsky and tried to cover it up. The president's attorneys had asked for three or four days.

The committee is now expected to vote to send at least one article of impeachment, and possibly three or four, to the full House by the end of the week.

Even Democratic members of Conress conceded Sunday that the chances have grown that the House will send the matter to the Senate for trial. "We are in a position today that we didn't think --I didn't think — we'd be in two or three weeks ago," said Senator Joseph Lie-berman of Connecticut.

Orrin Hatch, Republican of Utah and chairman of the Senate Judiciary Com-mittee, said that in recent weeks, "Things have turned against the president."

The chief Republican vote-counter in

the House, Representative Tom DeLay of Texas, said Sunday that a vote in the lower chamber appeared too close to call. "It's about a 50-50 proposition right now." While saying that he had not taken a precise head count, he added: "If we voted today, the president would be impeached."

Democrats questioned his conclusion, but some were clearly nervous.

"The simple arithmetic is this will be decided by one or two votes," said Representative Charles Schumer of New York, a Democratic member of the com-

mittee, "and that's frightening to me." The presumption following the Republicans' setbacks in the Nov. 3 election that the party would lose its taste for impeachment has given way to a swelling anger. Many say Mr. Clinton's legalistic responses to 81 questions sent him by the Judiciary Committee demonstrated arrogance and a lack of repentance.

The president basically stiffed the Congress," said Representative Christopher Shays, Republican of Connecti-cut. "His answers to the 81 questions are outrageous. He still doesn't get it, he still doesn't tell the truth.'

Such reaction echoed the angry responses to his Aug. 17 speech, in which Mr. Clinton acknowledged his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky but then assailed the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, as being driven by partisan

Mr. Shays said that while 15 to 20

See IMPEACH, Page 9

AGENDA

Shuttle Nearing Its Rendezvous

HOUSTON (Renters) — The U.S. shurrle Endeavour used its engines Sunday to begin a rendezvous with the Russian power station Zarya so asmonants can start assembling the \$60 billion, 16-nation international space station.

Endeavour was barreling down to Zarya from about 56 miles (90

kilometers) away when the shuttle commander, Robert Cabana, fired two engines to slow the shuttle's advance so that the Unity module could dock with Zarya.

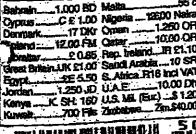
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European Banks Near Euro Crunch

Europe's banks are reaching a crucial stage as the date for intro-ducing the new currency, Ian. 4, nears. Bankers, software specialists and consultants are joining forces to prepare a banking system serving 290 million Europeans, Page 13.

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Kim Dae Jung Points a Finger At the Barons

By Don Kirk

SEOUL - In a society where the president is the ultimate authority figure, the former dissident Kim Dae Jung is attempting to bring unwilling con-glomerates into line just the way his predecessors did it, by telling them what

Like his arch foe Park Chung Hee, who governed South Korea for 18 years until his assassination in 1979, Mr. Kim has made clear to the chairmen of the country's five largest chaebol, or conglomerates, that they have to trim down to three or four core industries apiece or face severe penalties.

The top five chaebol — Hyundai, Samsung, Daewoo, LG and SK — new own from 37 to 63 subsidiaries each.

Summoning the five chairmen to the Bine House, the seat of presidential power here, on Monday, Mr. Kim plans to give them until the end of the year to come up with detailed restructuring plans along with a timetable for carrying them out within weeks, according to government officials.

In what has become a power struggle between big government and big business, the process of downsizing, selling off and merging companies once accustomed to unlimited credit from favorite banks has come to be known as the "Rig Deal." Mr. Kim's government has moved singerly to use the kind of power that his predecessor, Mr. Park, took for granted - his authority to order state-owned banks to extend or withdraw credit as he saw fit to companies

deemed likeliest to succeed. The government no longer owns most of the banks, but it still can tell the banks to cut off credit, and Mr. Kim's top aides have been saying repeatedly of late that they plan to use that power if needed.
Warning that, "the bottom is yet to

See CHAEBOL, Page 14



A Palestinian youth using a sling to launch a rock at Israeli soldiers Sunday near the West Bank village of Salfit. The beating of an Israeli soldier has led to a suspension of troop withdrawals.

All of Israel Bruised By Soldier's Beating

Some See Softness, Others a Lack of Pity

By Lee Hockstader Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM - Last Wednesday, Corporal Asaf Myara, a 19-year-old Israeli soldier, was disarmed, stoned and stomped almost senseless by a Palestinian mob. Television cameras captured every blow.

Every day since then, the rough treatment of Corporal Myara has continued, this time at the hands of Israeli Army officers, journalists and politicians.

The Palestinian rioters left him with head wounds requiring stitches, blurry vision and impaired hearing. His own countrymen have left him stunned, scared of a court-martial and "like a time bomb waiting to go off," his mother said. In the blink of an eye, Corporal Myara has become an Israeli Rodney King, his moment of agony immortalized on videotape and rebroadcast in slow motion for all the world to see. But there is a twist: Unlike Mr. King, the subject of an infamous beating by Los Angeles police officers. Corporal Myara was the uniformed and armed figure of authority. His attackers, the Palestinians, are usually the ones

shown being assaulted on national television. That astonishing role reversal — the televised spectacle of an Israeli soldier being dragged from a car and kicked on the ground by rioters in the West Bank — has inflamed the Israeli public and fueled a bitter national debate.

And without a public word from Corporal Myara — soldiers here are generally forbidden to speak to the news media — he has suddenly become a Rorschach test for all of

See ISRAEL, Page 9

Annan's Gamble Fails to Break Lockerbie Impasse

By Barbara Crossette New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York - The United Nations secretary-general, Kofi Annan, gambled on an unusual trip to Libya but apparently failed to persuade Colonel Moammar Gadhafi to turn over two suspects wanted in the bombing of a Pan Am jet over Lockerbie,

Scotland, in 1988. After keeping Mr. Amtan waiting nearly all day Saturday at the Libyan coastal town of Sirte, Mr. Gadhafi later met briefly with the secretary-general. Mr. Annan said afterward that the talks at an un-disclosed location had been "fruitful and positive,"

but indicated that obstacles remained in the path to a and readiness to find a solution to the Lockerbie trial in the Netherlands.

"The Lockerbie problem is an invented and comit under the pressure of what is called the 10th anniversary of the Pan Am accident," the diplomatic editor of the

official Libyan press agency, JANA, wrote Sunday.

The editor, quoted by Renters, played down the significance of the meeting. "Kofi Annan did not hold to the writer he benefits for a fifth annah the state of the meeting." talks with the brother leader of the revolution. He merely went to see him where he was in the Libyan desert, to salute him and greet him on his recovery," he said.

At a news conference in Tripoli after the meeting, Mr. Annan said, "Libya has confirmed its seriousness

"Libya has also agreed to a trial in a third country plicated one and it is not logical and reasonable to solve and believes that it ought to be possible to find answers to all other outstanding issues related to this matter,'

he said. But a trial in a third country, specifically the Netherlands, was not the outstanding issue Mr. Annan went to Libya to discuss. That compromise had been agreed to with the United States and Britain in August after

the Libyans balked at a trial in either country. The problems that have arisen since come from

See LIBYA, Page 9

Powerhouse of the Casino Unleashes His Political Muscle

By Brett Pulley New York Times Service

AS VEGAS — In a modest office building across the street from the Déjà Vu nude showgirls lounge, 15 workers, most of them elderly, spend their days in a long, narrow room lined with cubicles, computers and telephones

The door to the room has a sign that reads "Telephone Operations." Inside, the workers poll voters on coming political races, survey the nation on issues and make get-out-the-vote calls for candidates. "I'm going to read you the names of some people in our community," a worker repeatedly recited from a script in the days before last month's election. "After each, please let me know if your impression of them is favorable or unfavorable.'

The telephone room does not belong to a political party, a candidate or a consulting firm. It belongs to Stephen Wynn, chief executive of Mirage Resorts and the driving force behind the new \$1.9 billion Bellagio casino hotel here, the man most responsible for reshaping the way the United States perceives casinos.
"We're in the political business now," Mr.

Wynn declared in 1994 after several efforts to expand his company ran afoul of elected of-ficials in Connecticut, Detroit and Vancouver, in Canada. And so in Wynn fashion, he has used campaign contributions, lobbyists and his corporation's own expertise and manpower to assemble one of the most powerful political machines in the nation. As he goes about building casino resorts in New Jersey and Mississippi and enlarging his Las Vegas empire with the extravagant Bellagio, political muscle is a vital element in his ambitious plan to transform his industry.

'Steve Wynn's control over politicians is all-encompassing," said Steve Miller, a former member of the Las Vegas City Council who has frequently been at odds with Mr. Wynn, "It's overwhelming. Either you work for him or he tries to get you out of office."

Considered by many Nevadans to be the most powerful man in the state, Mr. Wynn gets roads rerouted, public transportation projects scuttled and public land deeded over to his company. He wields his influence not only to expand his company beyond Las Vegas, where it owns four casinos plus a half interest in a fifth, but also to advance the public's acceptance of casinos as he builds palaces so lush that they become mustsee stops on America's road map.

"There is a change taking place," Mr. Wynn, 56, said in an interview, whispering for effect. His new casinos will be "more elegant, more lovely, more complete and fetching than anything done before.

"And it has nothing to do with gambling,"



operation, which enables him to influence elec-tions and gain the favor of politicians who

decide everything from new roads that lead to his casinos to taxes paid by the entire industry. Under the guidance of Punam Mathur, Mirage's

director of government and community rela-tions, polls are taken on everything from school board races to gambling initiatives in states

where the company might want to do business.

keting and corporate surveys. In southern Mis-

sissippi, for example, where the labor force is

very tight, Mirage conducted surveys of res-

idents to learn what job benefits would make its casino attractive to potential employees. The company then shares its polling data with

You better start working because your op-ponent is beating you," Ms. Mathur said. Mr. Wynn also conducts voter registration

drives for his 26,000 employees and their families in Nevada, where Mirage has its cor-

porate headquarters. He and his staff per-

sonally meet with as many as 350 candidates in

an election year before deciding whom Mirage

will support. Then, before Election Day, he

issues his employees a voter guide with stars next to the names of candidates who have

The Mirage telephone operation pays divi-

dends in many ways. For example, when

received his "seal of approval."

'It's nice to be able to call a candidate and y, 'Whatever you're doing, keep it up,' or

preferred candidates.

The telephone operation also conducts mar-

In the past, of course, when a state rejected a Mirage casino but he was urged to build a hotel and entertainment complex anyway, Mr. Wynn refused. The gambling, he said, will "certainly help us pay for it all."

To help realize his ambitions, Mr. Wynn has

made Mirage one of the largest contributors among casino companies to federal candidates and the Democratic and Republican parties, even though competitors like Harrah's and Hilton own more casinos in more states. In the two years leading into the last election, Mirage gave \$464,596, at that level, and it says it contributed \$650,000 more to local and state

candidates.

In Mississippi, where its \$650 million Beau Rivage in Biloxi will employ 4,000 people, Mirage is already one of the largest contributors to local races. In Biloxi's mayoral race in 1997, campaign finance records show that Mirage was the largest single contributor to the successful re-election campaign of Mayor A.J. Holloway. In addition to his deep pockets, Mr. Wynn

uses his opulent properties to woo politicians. A 1995 fund-raiser at Shadow Creek, Mirage's ultraexclusive Las Vegas golf resort where caviar is served on the fairway, raised \$500,-000 for the presidential campaign of Bob Dole. The casino operator hedged his bets, attending a \$25,000-a-plate fund-raiser for President Bill Clinton and contributing to the Democratic

What sets Mr. Wynn apart is his polling

force behind the \$1.9 billion Bellagio casino hotel in Las Vegas: There is a change taking place.' His new casinos, he says, will be 'more elegant, more lovely, more complete and fetching than anything done before.

Stephen Wynn, right, the driving

Yvonne Atkinson Gates, chairwoman of the Clark County Board of Supervisors in Nevada, wants to hold a community meeting, she calls the Mirage telephone room to have it place calls to residents.

voice on it and do the dialing for me," said Ms. Gates, who, as head of the county board that must approve casino development along the Las Vegas strip, is a vital link to Mr. Wynn's continued masses. continued success

To the envy of many other casino owners, Mr. Wynn has got what he wants from the county board, as well as from other local entities. To expand his Golden Nugget casino, he persuaded city officials to deed him a down-town street. In developing the Bellagio, he struck a deal with the county board of su-pervisors that enabled Mirage to build a nine-acre lake with 1,100 fountains in front of the hotel, despite a local ordinance that bars new artificial lakes in the desert city.

Along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, with its strange brew of magnolia trees, antebellium mansions and high-wattage casino lights, Mr. Wynn's Bean Rivage is quickly becoming a force in local politics. "These Bean Rivage people, they want to control everything," said a Biloxi city official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. One of Mirage's first moves in Biloxi was to hire the same law firm that represents the city on casino matters.

N WASHINGTON, where until a few years ago the industry had only a scattered presence, Mr. Wynn was instrumental in forming the American Gaming Associ-ation, which pays \$800,000 a year to Frank Fahrenkopf Jr., a former Republican National Committée chairman, to lead the industry's

lobbying efforts.
"I think Steve is doing what he does best," said John Smith, author of "Running Scared," an unauthorized biography against which MT. Wynn has a defamation lawsuit pending. "He has been most effective at making the gambling industry a legitimate industry that does things like lobbying and contributing to candidates."

Weeks before Mr. Wynn graduated from the
University of Pennsylvania in 1963, his father,

a gambler and Maryland bingo parlor operator, died of heart disease at age 46, leaving the family with huge debts from his gar losses. Stepping in to take over the bail parlor, Mr. Wynn was on his way to helph build the country's flegling casino industry.

He soon moved to Las Vegas, invested in the mob-tainted Frontier casino, ran a liquor distributing company and entered into a real es tate investment involving Howard Hughes that netted Mr. Wynn more than half a million

dollars in less than a year.

Charming Wall Street as he now does point cians, Mr. Wynn fust took control of the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas, and then with the financier, he built the Golden Nugget in Aflantic City in 1980 for \$140 million. He hated New Jersey's heavy regulation of casinos, however, and sold the casino in 1987 for \$440

million, vowing never to return to the state.

As Mr. Wynn refined his ability to negetiate, with politicians, he reversed that positions.

After the industry successfully lobbied with positions to relax casino regulations. then persuaded them to provide \$220 million in public money - in addition to \$110 mills of Mirage's — for a roadway and tunnel that will lead to Le Jardin, a \$1 billion casno development planned by Mirage. Last month; the state broke ground on the roadway.

"The guy is very smart," said Alan Marc a spokesman for Donald Trump's case which adamantly opposed Mr. Wynn's Ai-lantic City plans. "He's so smart he took their pants off. He got everything he wanted.

Under Mr. Wynn, Mirage has grown into at | | . . \$1.5 billion-a-year company, its stock rising and is average of 28 percent a year since he took ever 25 years ago. He controls more than 15 percent! of the stock, and his wife and brother also own?

To be sure, he has not pulled it all off alone; He is praised for surrounding himself with talented people, and his reputation for treating his! employees well is legendary. He once surprised? his 400 managers and executives in Atlantic City with new cars. Last year, Portune magazine named Mirage as one of America's "most admired" companies, second only to Coca-Cola.

All you need to know about the Euro

NEW MONEY

There's no doubt, the EMU heralds dramatic changes for the world. In an overview of the new order, we cover the economics and politics behind the shift and take a look at possible consequences.

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All you need to know.

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government ing countries and their de-

MONDAY: Amenia, Banglaesh, Ivory Coust, Nicaragua, Thailand,

TUESDAY: Andorre, Argen-Peru, Portugal, Spain, Vatican City,

WEDNESDAY: THURSDAY:

FRIDAY: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Suckina Paso, Egypt, Israel, Orzan, SATURDAY: Kenya, Mexico,

SUNDAY: Maha

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Europe

TRAVEL UPDATE

More Disruptions Seen pendencies this week because from French Rail Strike of national and religious hol-

PARIS (AFP)—A railroad strike in France will continue to disrupt services across the country this week, although high-speed international trains will not be affected, the railway management said Sunday. Ticket inspectors in most parts of the country agreed Sunday to continue their 10-day strike; said it would reroute Strasbourg flights possible said it would reroute Strasbourg could be interrupted Monday because of a planned strike by airport firemen, the airport said Sunday. The 31 fireman, hired by a subtractor on three-year contracts, threaten to strike to press their demand for the status of full employees, the airport said. Air France said it would reroute Strasbourg flights possible said it would reroute Strasbourg could be interrupted Monday because of a planned strike by airport firemen, third airport said Sunday. The 31 fireman, hired by a subtractor on three-year contracts, threaten to strike to press their demand for the status of full employees, the airport said. Air France said it would reroute Strasbourg could be interrupted Monday because of a planned strike by airport firemen, the airport said.

Paris, where inspectors are not vital to operations. High-speed international connections on the Eurostar to Britain, the Thalys link to Brussels, Cologne and Amsterdam, northern European services and routes to Switzerland and Grenoble will also run nor-

Air Algerie employees went on an in-definite strike Sunday, grounding all the air-line's 40 planes, to put pressure on managers to cancel an overhaul plan that includes a one-

Air France plane.

Air traffic in and out of Strasbourg could

(Reuters)

Two jets flying about 30 miles (50 li-lometers) southwest of Albany, New 1872, nearly collided last week apparently alban-computer mathunction, the U.S. Federal As-ation Administration said over the weeken ation Administration said over the we switzerland and Grenoble will also run normally. Operations on the Paris-to-Lyon high-speed route are expected to be close to normal Monday.

Connections from Paris likely to be hit hard Monday include routes to Cherbourg, Toulouse and Clermont-Ferrand. Rail workers have been striking in demand for extra staff and higher wages.

Air Algerie employees went on an indefinite strike Sunday, grounding all the air-

line's 40 planes, to put pressure on managers to cancel an overhaul plan that includes a one-third reduction in the company's 9,000-strong work force. 'Not a single plane has taken office will take off from or land in any airport across the country on Sunday," a union spokesman said. "All the planes are grounded." The management of the state-owned airline was not available to comment. Most foreign airlines have been staying away from Travel agents showed up at the site of the



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The Venezuelan 'Warrior' Candidate

By Diana Jean Schemo New York Times Service

CARACAS — The podium rose two stories above the multimde, but El-Comandante, Hugo Chavez, floated.

Standing in a box draped to look like a balcony, raised by a mechanical lift, he swept his arm way over his head, vow-mg to throw out Veneznela's legendary corruption in one swift and forceful

"We're witnessing a real revolution, which cannot be stopped by anything or anybody," Mr. Chavez, a fiery 44-yearold former military leader turned presidential candidate, told a crowd of 700,000 at his closing campaign rally last week. Many wore the red better of of the vote.

To business leaders and international investors, Mr. Chavez is the red menace resurrected. To the poor, he is the impatient savior who is already smashing the clubby machine of mutual favors at

the top of Venezuelan politics. Mr. Chavez, who tried to storm the presidential palace in a failed coup attempt six years ago, was the front run-ner in the presidential elections Sunday.

emor of Carabobo state, Enrique Salas Rocmer. Mr. Chavez-spent two years in . jail after the coup attempt but was re-leased in 1994, when President Rafael Caldera, who was leaving office, dropped the charges against him.
At that time, Mr. Chavez visited Cuba

and praised Fidel Castro and "the Cuban way." There have also been reports of direct contacts with the leftist rebels in Colombia, Venezuela's neighbor to the west, which Mr. Chavez has denied. Both Mr. Chavez and Mr. Salas were

rague on economic plans, and both criticized the traditional party machinery. But Mr. Chavez's role in trying to over-throw the government of President Carthe military special forces in a sign of los Andres Perez, his virtiolic oratory and support. "We have a popular avahis support for Cuba have terrified apperlanche," Mr. Chavez said, predicting he class Venezuelans, who have been send-would win with 60 percent to 80 percent ing their money and other assets out of the country for fear of a Chavez victory. Wearing the black shirt and the red-beret of the special forces, Mr. Chavez noted his record as a "warrior" at the

> said, but combatants we are. We are making this war for Venezuela. We do it in peace, but we are warriors."

> rally. "Clearly, today I am a warrior for peace, fighting for true democracy," he

As he gained in popularity, Mr. Chavez moderated his talk, in some

in voter surveys, he led by as much as 15 instances contradicting earlier state percentage points over his nearest op ments. He more recently said he was ponent, a silver-haired two-time gov- "neither for savage capitalism, nor socialism, nor communism," but for a gentler kind of capitalism.

The United States has denied Mr. Chavez a visa but has said it will work with whoever wins the election. Analysts close to the Chavez campaign said his team had made overtures to U.S. officials and discussed a post-election visit to New York and Washington.

His supporters and detractors agree on one point: The rise of the would-be strongman is a symptom of the Venezuelan government's sustained neglect of most of the population, something that has given democracy a bad name

Though Venezuela is the leading ex-porter of oil to the United States, four out of five Venezuelans live in poverty. About 40 percent are in dire poverty, which means they are malnourished. For many citizens, the sole explanation for the overwhelming misery despite the oil wealth is corruption, which has indeed flowered.

The clarion call of this year's campaign is change, short of revolution.
While Mr. Salas promises change, Mr.
Chavez — with his booming demunciations of los corruptos and his pledge to "fry" the heads of the political bigwigs - embodies it.



Hugo Chavez and his daughter Rosa sharing a smile.

Hoffa Wins Teamsters' Presidency and Vows 'New Militancy'

By Steven Greenhouse New York Times Service

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia James P. Hoffa won election to the confidence and hope in this union, power presidency of the Teamsters union, the job that his powerful father held for more than a decade, after the main opponent conceded defeat.

from Detroit, will take the helm of see a new militancy in the Teamsters one of the largest unions in the union in our negotiations."] United States.

appeared in 1975.

[Speaking Sunday on the NBC sters' leader, had 9,225 votes, or 6 News program "Meet the Press," percent.

Mr. Hoffa claimed victory and In conceding defeat, Mr. Leed-

got to restore the financial integrity came from nowhere to build a grass- by 13,197 for Mr. Leedham and of this union, we've got to restore roots campaign for rank-and-file 1,062 for Mr. Metz. Mr. Hoffa ran get the people back to believing in their union.

main opponent conceded defeat.

With the concession from Tom
Leedham, Mr. Hoffa, a labor lawyer better contracts. "We're going to

The victory on Saturday returns mion's southern, eastern and westthe Hoffa name to the head of a era regions, Michael Cherkasky, the union that federal officials had long federal election monitor, said Mr. called the most corrupt, particularly Hoffa had 100,899 votes, or 54 perwhen Mr. Hoffa's father, James R. - cent, while Mr. Leedham, head of Hoffa, led the organization from the union's warehouse division, had 1957 to 1971. The elder Hoffa dis- 74,700 or 40 percent. A third candidate, John Metz, a St. Louis Team-

In conceding defeat, Mr. Leedpromised to bring a new militancy to ham said: "The returns have made it the union. The Associated Press re- clear that our campaign for rank-Ported from Washington and file power ran out of time, hat campaign spent about one-trucking terminal in Columbus, he'll be able to build this union back Ohio, offered this assessment: "We up to 2 million." TRACELINGUE

Mr. Hoffa's lead is expected to expand after the counting of votes He said two objectives would be from the Midwest, which is his home turf and was his father's stronghold. About 420,000 votes were cast, and a final tally was ex-

pected Monday.
Mr. Hoffa, 57, won the race in his With ballots processed from the second attempt, having lost nar-nion's southern, eastern and west-rowly in 1996 to Ron Carey, the incumbent. That result was overturned and a new election ordered when a federal monitor found that

Carey in 1996. This year, Mr. Hoffa received cause that will help us even 65,196 in the East, Mr. Leedham playing field with companies." received 43,611 and Mr. Metz,

Mr. Hoffa, a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, ran on a platform promising to reunite the badly splintered union and to give more power back to state and local Teamster organizations.

Mr. Leedham styled himself as an three Carey aides had misappropri-ated more than \$700,000 from the ion of Mr. Carey when he first won Teamsters' treasury to help the the union's leadership in 1991, and Carey campaign. Mr. Carey was Mr. Leedham promised to involve later expelled from the union and the rank and file far more in ne-Mr. Leedham replaced him as a can-gotiations and other union activithe rank and file far more in ne-

This year, the Hoffa camp spent Jody Rodriguez, a ballot observer driving trucks in 1960. "With the almost a \$1 million, while the Leed-who works at a Yellow Freight solid people Jimmy has around him, Jody Rodriguez, a ballot observer

civil war," Mr. Hoffa said. "We spent \$6 million and had a famous Mr. Hoffa narrowly won the feel like Jimmy's the Messiah of the have got to pull it together, we have name, but in six short months we South, with 14,282 votes, followed labor movement. He's for the working-class people, and he's the guy who's going to rebuild this union. more strongly in the East, after hav- There's nothing wrong with having ing lost it by 21,000 votes to Mr. an educated attorney heading the union instead of truck drivers because that will help us even the It will not be easy to restore the

Teamsters to their power of old, largely because the union's membership has slipped to 1.4 million from 2.3 million in the 1970s and the overall power of the labor movement has declined.

But supporters of Mr. Hoffa say they hope that he is the man who will lead the resurgence of labor and attract hundreds of thousands to the Teamsters banner.

"I think he'll do the same thing his father did, build up this union,' said Danny Moussette, a Teamsters official from Chicago who began driving trucks in 1960. "With the

POLITICAL NOTES

Reno Unlikely to Seek Inquiry Of Funds by a Special Counsel

WASHINGTON — Top Justice Department officials advised Attorney General Janet Reno over the weekend not to seek an investigation of President Bill Clinton's 1996 campaign fund-raising by an independent counsel, and she appears likely to accept the recommendation, according to senior officials.

Under a timetable set by law, Ms. Reno must announce Monday whether she has found enough indication that Mr. Clinton may have committed crimes that would requore her to seek an outside investigator under the Independent Counsel Act.

Allegations that the president had dodged federal campaign spending limits by misusing Democratic Party funds triggered the department's campaign finance investigation 25 months ago, and have remained the premise of virtually every accusation that a criminal conspiracy tainted the president's re-election.

At a meeting of top aides and officials from the department's criminal division, Ms. Reno heard argu-

ments that the laws Mr. Clinton allegedly transgressed were murky at best, and that there is convincing evidence that the president attempted to ensure that his campaign did nothing wrong, the officials said. (WP) did nothing wrong, the officials said.

Judge Clears Starr Lawyers

WASHINGTON - The prosecutors for the independent counsel Kenneth Starr did not improperly prevent Monica Lewinsky from calling her lawyer when they first confronted her about her relationship with President Bill Clinton last January, a federal judge has ruled, while questioning their conduct in talking to Ms. Lewinsky

about an immunity deal without a lawyer present.

The April 28 ruling by U.S. District Judge Norma
Holloway Johnson cleared Mr. Start's office of several misconduct allegations that the White House and congressional Democrats have promoted in their attack on Mr. Start's tactics. The Democrats' criticism escalated with the release of grand jury testimony in September in which Ms. Lewinsky complained that she felt threatened when Mr. Starr's prosecutors confronted her Ian. 16 and said she was discouraged from calling her lawyer at the time, Francis Carter. Only after 11 hours with Mr. Starr's prosecutors

did Ms. Lewinsky consult a lawyer, William Ginsburg. But Judge Johnson faulted Mr. Starr's prosecutors for their handling of a discussion of immunity on Jan. 16. Saying that it could be a violation of Justice Department policy. Judge Johnson wrote that "the office of independent counsel may have acted improperly in conducting immunity negotiations with Ms. Lewinsky without the presence of her counsel, but declines to take further action on this particular matter."

Quote/Unquote

Bill Bradley, the former New Jersey senator, has set up an exploratory committee for a possible presidential campaign. When asked about Iowa, an early caucus step, he tells of being an 11-year-old Little League baseball player in the regional championship game in Keokuk: "I'm on first and we're trailing by a run. I take a step off the base, the guy does the hidden-ball trick and, bang, we lose. Ever since, I've dreamed of going back to Iowa and winning one."

AMERICAN TOPICS

Scrapped War Fleet Serves As Haven for Potomac Birds

In a Maryland backwater of the Potomac River called Mallows Bay, 30 miles south of Washington, an eeric scene emerges from the early-morning mist: the rotting remains of more than 100 wooden ships built in a misguided

World War I crash program.
When President Woodrow Wilson issued a call to arms against imperial Germany in 1917, U.S. shipping was a dire concern, reports Invention & Technology magazine. Shipyards had launched only 540,000 tons of bluewater shipping from 1899 to 1915; now, to move men and supplies across the submarine-infested Atlantic, 6 million tons would have to be built in 18 months.

A novel plan to build wooden ships was launched. The vessels could be produced by semiskilled workers, which would be fast and cheap and would not tie up naval shipyards. The plan was to launch 1,000 wooden steamships within 18 months, each 240 to 300 feet (73 to 90 meters) long. By there were problems. Millions of feet of timber were badly cut; ships, weakly constructed and badly caulked, were dangerously unseaworthy. Only 98 ships had been delivered by the end of the war, but with livered by the end of the war, but with bureaucratic momentum, construction

continued.

The diesel engine and the awful postwar economy made the wooden fleet obsolete. The entire 233-ship armade, which had cost \$700,000 to \$1 million per vessel, was sold in 1922 for 750,000 to a Virginia salvage comwhany. But the ships obstructed nav-igation, and 31 vessels were set ablaze in a large conflagration. A few years later the salvage company went bust Today, the hulks of more than 100



WHITEWASHED — Traffic crawling along a street in Medford. Oregon, as snow fell over the weekend in the southern part of the state.

ships form a ghostly, giant artificial | High. Seniors are particularly upset, reef in Mallows Bay, harboring snowy egrets, sturgeon, Canada geese, whistling swans, ospreys and bald eagles.

Short Takes

Three years ago, a school board in Salt Lake City, Utah, benned extra-curricular clubs as a way to rid the schools of a gay students group, the Gay-Straight Alliance. Now, The Associated Press reports, the alliance is thriving but students and teachers say

school spirit and socialization have been badly damaged.

The school board approved a ban on clubs not linked to academic studies after being advised that federal law prohibits schools from discriminating against clubs on the basis of unpopular ideas they espouse. But the Gay-Straight Alliance, backed by a national gay group, declared itself a community group and now tents a classroom in East High School for weekly meetings. Other clubs lapsed for want of money for rent and insurance premiums. "It has been a disaster," said Scott

Nelson, a social studies teacher at East

knowing that colleges put great stock on applicants' extracurricular activities. An effort by one school board member to reconsider the ban was

A letter to the advice columnist Ann Landers urged Christmas-card writers to keep their happiness to themselves — especially the smug variety. "Spare us the details of the lvy League schools your children are attending and the honors and awards they have received," the letter said. "Just let us know in a handwritten note that your family is well."

That struck a Dallas resident, Pam

Johnson, as odd. Shouldn't happiness be shared? So she founded a covert group — the Secret Society of Happy People. Its raison d'être, she says, is that "happy moments are good things that need to be shared."

Aware of the subversive nature of the message, her group keeps a low profile. Most recruiting is done via an Internet site: www.sohp.com.

Brian Knowlton

"Cancel the warm milk. I don't think I'll need it."



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Away From Politics

With prices of some generic drugs soaring to record levels this year, the federal government is preparing to accuse one of the world's largest producers, Myland Laboratories Inc., of the world's largest producers, Myland Laboratories Inc., of the mipling its prices after trying to comer the market for the drugs' raw materials, lawyers involved in the anti-compenition case said in Washington. (NYT)

The Justice Department is investigating whether the CIA may have obstructed justice by giving Hughes Electronics Corp. information about a congressional inquiry injuring that company's alleged transfer of sensitive U.S. ice technology to China, government officials said in Washington.

A Nigerian woman seven and a half months pregnant went into labor on a flight from Ghana to New York on Saturday, but pilots radioed ahead, and two Port Authority police officers rushed on board when the plane landed at Kennedy International Airport and helped deliver a healthy beby girl in coach class.

• A father accused of injecting his 11-month-old son with HIV-tainted blood to avoid paying child support was convicted of first-degree assault in St. Charles, Missouri. The boy, now 7, has AIDS. Jurous recommended life in prison for Brian Stewart, 32, who was a hospital technician.

• A Yale University student was found stabbed to death Priday night a mile and a half (2.4 kilometers) from the Yale campus in New Haven, Connecticut. The mayor's office told The Associated Press there were indications that the death of the student, a 21-year-old political science major from Germany, had not been a "random event."

• A teenager was found guilty of first-degree man-slaughter in New York in the grisly slaying of a 44-year-old Upper East Side man who was stabled 34 times, eviscerated and left floating in a lake in Central Park in May 1997. Christopher Vasquez was acquitted of the more serious charge of second-degree murder and faces a sentence of three and one third to 10 years in prison.

(NYT) By John Pomfret

TAIPEI - Picking stability and stewardship over ideals and ethnicity. Taiwan's voters have handed a reformed Nationalist Party a crucial victory over the opposition Democratic Progressive Party in mayoral and legislative elections throughout this island of 21 million people.

The election Saturday marked a major success for the Nationalists' policy of limited engagement with China and a rejection of the Democratic Progressive platform of independence from the mainland Communist giant. It also rewarded the Nationalists for economic policies that have generally insulated Taiwan from the Asian financial crisis.

Taiwan's voters propelled the Nationalist candidate, Ma Ying-jeou, a Harvard-educated lawyer, to victory in the race for mayor of Taipei over Chen Shui-bian, the incumbent and a leader of the opposition.

The voters handed the Nationalist Party a clear majority in the legislature as well and gave its candidates a solid 46.39 percent of the total vote, compared with the Democratic Progress-

ives' 29.55 percent. The results will be welcomed in Beijing, where China's government is known to have watched with concern the rise of the Democratic Progressives. China has said it will attack Taiwan if the island declares independence. The outcome also will be appreciated in Washington, where some U.S. officials have expressed fears that a strong opposition showing could complicate Washington's delicate balancing act between Taipei, which buys American weapons, and Beijing, which strenu-

ously opposes those sales.

This is a victory for the middle class." one radio station announced as thousands of families flooded the streets of the capital Saturday night, turning the boulevards of this sprawling metropolis into a pageant of fireworks, foghorns, fluttering banners and flags.

"We voted this way to avoid confrontation with the Communists," said Yu Ting-wan, 38, an electrical engineer who came to a victory rally with his 3year-old son on his shoulders and his wife by his side. "I love Taiwan, and I think the Nationalists are the ones to

[Mr. Ma, signaling that the outcome also signified the end of an ethnic rift that has marked Taiwan's politics over the past five decades, said Sunday that his victory was "an important symbol and a new milestone of ethnic integration," Reuters reported.

["I hope all ethnic issues will become a part of history and will not continue to haunt the people of Taipei," Mr. Ma

Nationwide, about 80 percent of Taiwan's registered voters cast ballots, a clear sign that Taiwan is relishing its new role of one of Asia's most vibrant democracies.

The hard-fought and relatively clean campaign was Taiwan's ninth major election since the Nationalist government ended 37 years of martial law and legalized a multiparty system in 1986. It underscores several important develop-ments on this island, which occupies a strategic position in the South China Sea 100 miles (160 kilometers) off the coast

First, analysts said, the Nationalist victory is not a vote for reunification with China. Another opposition group, the New Party, founded three years ago on a platform calling for unification with China, was soundly rejected in the election, garnering less than 7 percent of

Rather, the election showed the depth of public support for the Nationalists' new policy of firmness with China. The Nationalists in recent meetings with the Chinese Communists have said they will unite with China only if it democratizes and treats Taiwan as an equal in the negotiations - two very

difficult conditions for Beijing.

The vote also was a rejection of the sometimes impulsive, ethnically divisive and confrontational stance adopted by the Democratic Progressive Party.

That was most clearly seen in the race between Mr. Ma and Mr. Chen for may-or of Taipei, where an average family of four makes about \$40,000 a year and, polls show, opposes unification with China, where \$10,000 a year is a for-

A longtime leader of the Democratic Progressive Party, Mr. Chen was elected Taipei's mayor in 1994 and has worked since then to untie Taipei's infamous traffic snarls and build a subway. Going into the race, he had an approval rating of 70 percent.

But in his campaign, Mr. Chen made clear distinction between people like himself, who were born in Taiwan and comprise more than 80 percent of Taiwan's population, and "outsiders" such as Mr. Ma, who was born in Hong Kong of parents who fled China's Communist revolution in 1949.

"Vote for the Taiwanese, not for the Chinese," Mr. Chen said at several rallies - a cry that alienated the many Taiwan voters who see themselves as both.



Cheung Tze-keung, a gangster known as "Big Spender," in court in China before his execution Saturday.

Khmer Rouge Finished, Cambodia Says

Hundreds of Guerrillas Surrender, but 3 Hunted Leaders Remain Free

By Seth Mydans New York Times Service

BANGKOK - In a modest televised ceremony, several hundred Khmer Rouge guerrillas surrendered to the Cambodian government over the weekend in what was presented as an end to the armed Communist movement that tore Cambodia apart for decades.

But the last three top leaders at large targets of a possible interrational tribunal for crimes against humanity did not participate in the surrender. They are known to have moved back and forth across the border with Thailand for years, and their whereabouts are unknown.

It was not clear how many fighters were involved in the capitulation Saturday. The Cambodian general who accepted their surrender, Meas Sophea, said about 500 fighters would be integrated into the government army. Another official said only that there had been fewer than 1,000.

It did not appear that this final small group of rebel soldiers to surrender would receive the special deal offered to earlier, more powerful such groups, which have been allowed to keep their territory, political structure and military

But the surrender would allow the

return to Cambodia of some 20,000 civilians who had been living under Khmer Rouge control along Cambo-dia's northern border. Most of them are now refugees in Thailand.

"It's the end of the Khmer Rouge," General Meas Sophea said.
In fact, the Khmer Rouge has been ending in stages since mid-1996, when much of its Western command joined the government, followed by other

groups of defectors.

Splits in the top leadership in early 1997 further weakened the movement. Its founder, Pol Pot, was tried by his comrades and sentenced to a life term of house arrest in the northern jungles. He died in April.

It was then only a matter of time before the surrender of the last holdouts in a brutal 30-year revolutionary movement that caused the deaths of more than 1 million people when it ruled Cambodia from 1975 to 1979.

Analysts of the Khmer Rouge said it was possible that some guerrillas re-mained at large, essentially as roving bandits, and that some aides may have stayed with the three top leaders. The three are Ta Mok, the Khmer Rouge military leader; Khieu Samphan, its political chief, and Nuon Chea, a top

deologue. Armed Forces," he "We can't find them in Cambodian videotaped ceremony.

territory," General Meas Sophea said. "They must be somewhere along the border." He previously said the leaders had crossed into Thailand

Last month, a three-member team of international lawyers visited Cambodia to assess evidence against Khmer Ronge leaders for a possible trial. They are to present their findings to the United Nations in January.

Any trial would probably target only a small number of top figures, perhaps 15 or 20. Political and diplomatic barriers to a trial must yet be crossed, and there is also the problem of capturing the suspects.

Apart from the three leaders who remain at large, other leading figures are living in relatively autonomous defector zones where it may be impossible to seize them. These potentially include leng Sary, a close aide and brother-inlaw of Pol Pot, who led the first defections and is now based in the defector zone of Pailin, though he spends much of his time in Thailand.

The surrender Saturday was led by Khem Nuon, chief of staff for the three fugitive leaders.

We ask for permission from the royal government of Cambodia to rejoin society and the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces," he said during the

Executions In China Worry Hong Kong

By Keith B. Richburg

HONG KONG - The Chinese anthorities in Guangzhou executed the most notorious gangster in Hong Kong over the weekend, ending a long and sensational criminal career and intensifying a debate over whether Beijing's swift brand of justice should be applied to residents of Hong Kong, who have broader legal protections when tried at

The execution Saturday came immediately after the People's High Con rejected an appeal from the gangsi rejected an appeal from the gangster known as "Big Spender," whose real name is Cheung Tze-keung, 43. He was convicted last month, with 35 other members of his gang, of cross-border crimes that included gun-running, dynamite smuggling between mainland China and Hong Kong, robbing gold stores and the spectacular kidnappings of two real-estate tycoons in Hong of two real-estate tycoons in Hong Kong, whose families paid apparently a

world record for ransom, \$210 million. Four of Mr. Cheung's lieutenants were also executed Saturday. Two others sentenced to death won a two-year stay of execution, and 29 others re-

ceived lengthy prison terms.

The "Big Spender" case has prompted heated debate here, with pro-democracy politicians and lawyers saying it set a dangerous precedent to try a Hong Kong criminal suspect elsewher in China, where defendants are afforded few legal protections and where exserious crimes.

When Mr. Cheung and his henchmen were arrested in Guangdong Province, the authorities in Hong Kong made no attempt to have them brought back to stand trial here. A British-style judicial system remains intact from Hong Kong's colonial days despite its rever-sion last year to China, where it is now a special administrative region. After Mr. Cheung was executed, a spokesman for the government of Hong Kong said in a statement, "We respect the independence of the judicial system of other jurisdictions."

Legal officials in Hong Kong also said there was no formal procedure for transferring residents arrested in China back here for trial. The legislature has essed the government to formulate a 'bilateral surrender of fugitives' agreement with China, to allow Hong Kong residents to be tried in the rest of China only if there is a guarantee the will not face the death penalty.

BRIEFLY

Sri Lanka Officials Shelled

ODDUSUDDAN, Sri Lanka — The deputy defense minister and the three armed services chiefs of Sri Lanka narrowly missed being killed when Tamil Tiger rebels fired mortars at them Sunday, military officials said.

The officials said four soldiers were killed and 42 wounded, six of them seriously, when the rebels fired at a convoy carrying Deputy Defense Minister Anuruddha Ratwatte after a visit to the newly captured town of Oddusuddan.

'Four shells landed in front of our vehicle," Mr. Ratwatte told reporters at Nedunkerni, a town south of Oddusuddan. He and the armed services chiefs escaped unhurt, but four bodyguards of the minister were among the

Indonesian Urges Nonviolence

JAKARTA — One of the most popular Indonesian opposition leaders urged thousands of cheering supporters Sunday to push for political reform peacefully.

"We must continue our struggle without violence," pleaded Megawan Sukarnoputri, leader of a breakaway faction of the Indonesian Democratic Party.

Ms. Megawati, daughter of Indonesia's founding president, Sukarno, is the latest political figure to appeal for an end to the violence that has rocked the world's fourth most populous nation for much of this year.

India Marks Mosque Demolition

AYODHYA, India — India deployed thousands of troops and detained 2,000 people across the country Sunday as the nation observed the sixth anniversary of the demolition of a mosque that has caused deep religious and political divisions.

Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, whose Bharatiya Janata Party won power on a campaign to build a Hindu temple where the mosque was, called for a peaceful solution to the dispute.

The 16th-century Babri Masjid Mosque at Ayodhya in the northern Uttar Pradesh state was razed by Hindu zealots Dec. 6, 1992. The demolition sparked Hindu-Muslim riots in which more than 3,000 people died.

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KOREA: '94 Pact Unraveling

Senior Clinton administration officials say that the North Koreans will be told in

that the project is intended for civilian use. But a senior State Department official said last week that U.S. intelligence information offers convincing" evidence that the mountainside facility will create its nuclear program.

American officials say

"The North Koreans are playing with fire," said Robert Gallucci, the former negotiated the 1994 agreement and who is now dean of downhill economically. the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.

consciously engaging in brinksmanship. They are put-ting the framework at risk."

that U.S. policy toward North

the United States, especially over the continuation of U.S. the Korean War.

"The Agreed Framework organizations, such as Iranas soon as feasible, and we haven't," he said. "We have not lived up to all that the said as a soon as feasible and we have have not lived up to all that the said." said we would lift sanctions not lived up to all that we said we would do.''

or four months. Congress is going to take apart the Agreed

ing full bore to develop a nu-

clear capability," he said.

The administration announced in October that former Defense Secretary William Perry, now in private business in California, would oversee a complete review of

U.S. policy on North Korea.
[Mr. Perry arrived in Seoul late Sunday to discuss North Korean policy issues, Reuters reported. He will meet with top South Korean officials, include ing President Kim Dae Jung, during a three-day stay to so-licit views on Washington's stance toward the North, a U.S. Embassy statement said.)

Senior Republican lawmakers have threatened to cut off the tens of millions of dollars required to carry out the 1994 agreement, citing provocative acts by the secretive Communist government in be used by North Korea to re- North Korea, including the construction of the underground site and the missile launching last August. They have refused to consider lift-

ing sanctions.
"I don't think there is any reason to trust them, aid Senator Craig Thomas, Republican of Wyoming, who is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs. "You have a govern-State Department official who ment that is more like a cult, and that is obviously going

In drafting the mammoth government spending bill in October, the Republicans reluctantly agreed to provide \$35 million requested by administration to pay for de-Donald Gregg, U.S. amliveries of heavy fuel oil to
bassador to South Korea durNorth Korea, as required under the 1994 accord. But they placed tough conditions on disbursement of the money.

Under the bill, most of the Korea was in "disarray" and money cannot be paid out untar there was little time left to less the administration certisalvage the 1994 agreement. fies in writing that it has ob-Mr. Gregg said that the tained a satisfactory explan-North Koreans may be jus- ation about the purpose of the tified in their frustration with underground site, that North Korea has shut down its nuclear weapons program and economic sanctions that were that it has stopped selling balimposed on the North during listic missile technology to nations that support terrorist

possible to meet those conditions and that President Bill Clinton will probably have to "And if we don't get our invoke national security in act together in the next three paying for the fuel oil - a move permitted under the legislation but one that would

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Continued from Page 1 North Koreans have from go-

Korean Army said last week.

negotiations this month that the agreement will unravel unless North Korea allows a team of dozens of U.S. inspectors complete access to the underground installation that is being built 40 kilometers (25 miles) from the North Korean nuclear complex at Yongbyon. Aerial photographs show thousands of North Korean laborers working at the site.

The North Koreans insist

they are also alarmed by intelligence evidence suggesting that North Korea is making preparations to test-fire a medium-range ballistic missile over Japan; a similar launch last August caused a

near-panic in Japan. "The North Koreans are quite

ing the Bush administration and now president of the Korea Society in New York, said

Framework and that will refurther erode support in Con-move any inhibition the gress for the 1994 agreement.

Faller and the

When don A

EUROPE

U.S., France and Britain: Tangle of Friendship and Suspicion

By Craig R. Whitney New York Times Service

PARIS - With allies like France, does the United States really need enemies? Put another way: With allies like

Britain, who needs France?

More often than they like to admit exasperated U.S. policymakers have asked themselves questions like these over the years.

But as Secretary of State Madeleine Albright heads for Brussels and Paris: this week for meetings with allied foreign ministers and a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, she might reflect that U.S. disagreements with Britain over the past half century have sometimes been as rancorous as

Shose with the French.
The United States and Britain clashed over a French-British attempt to grab an American television news show that the Suez Canal in 1956 and did not see the reason Saddam Hussein had been

eye to eye about what should be done to able to avoid British-American bombstop the fighting in Bosnia until 1995... But ever since two sonl mates named Churchill and Roosevelt commiserated

about their dealings with an individualist named de Gaulle, the strong underlying assumption of trust that exists between Washington and London has simply not been there to the same degree between Washington NEWS and Paris

ANALYSIS think the world of the British and the worst of the French. Even when France and the United States are it basic agreement, as they are at the moment on fraq, there is always some-body like Senator John McCain, Re-publican of Arizona, to throw a monkey wrench into the works.

Mr. McCain, whom the French con-sider no friend, appeared to suggest on an American television news show that

ing last month might have been that France had tipped him off that the

bombers were on the way.

Never mind that the United States itself had warned lraq repeatedly that it faced imminent bombing if it did not back down and comply with United Nations resolutions on arms inspection. Mr. McCain denied accusing the French, and officials in Britain later

confirmed that nobody had given the exact timetable to them anyway.

Even when Britain and the United States are in basic disagreement, as they were during much of the war in Bosnia until 1995, American Anglophilia tends to rewrite history. This left the impression that it was actually the French who did not want the United States to start bombing in Bosnia to stop Serbian ag-

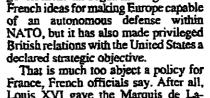
France did indeed have to overcome sympathies for Serbia that date from

World War I, but as recently published memoirs by a British commanding general of the UN peacekeepers in Bosnia, Sir Michael Rose, confirm, London was strongly opposed to heavy NATO bombing raids that the Americans kept want-

ing to launch against the Bosnian Serbs. The impasse was not broken until President Jacques Chirac came to power in France in 1995 and, after the Serbs overran the UN "safe area" in Srebrenica and massacred Muslim civilians, mobilized British and U.S. support for a policy with more military muscle.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization did go ahead with a bombing campaign and the Serbs, after suffering other setbacks on the ground, agreed to a cease-fire and a beefed-up NATO-led peacekeeping operation that finally put U.S. troops, along with others, on the ground alongside the French and Brit-

Prime Minister Tony Blair's Labour



government has begun moving closer to

Louis XVI gave the Marquis de Lafavette 6,000 troops to help George Washington in 1777 not because the king shared Lafayette's enthusiasm for the revolutionaries but to make trouble for the British, who were his enemy.

Ever since, French-U.S. relations have been like a long-running marriage,

frequently warmed by friction. De Gaulle restored pride to a nation humiliated by defeat in World War II, often at U.S. expense. The French need to take pride in France." de Gaulle explained to his acolyte Alain Peyrefitte in 1962. "Otherwise, they fall into mediocrity, fight with each other and head for the bistro.

Henry Kissinger understood, "De Gaulle was not anti-American in principle," he wrote in his book "Diplomacy" (Touchstone/Simon & Schuster). "He was willing to cooperate whenever, in his view, French and American interests genuinely converged. Thus, during the Cuban missile crisis, American officials were aston-ished by de Gaulle's all-out support the most unconditional backing extended to them by any allied leader.'

De Gaulle dominated Europe, but he did not want anyone else to - not the Soviet Union certainly, but not the United States, either.

Even today, French leaders tend to see the United States in Steinbeckian terms, as a strong, friendly but unsophisticated giant whose full embrace might be fatal.

So, when the United States says that it really does want a united, prosperous Europe and that it does not feel threatened by plans for the euro, the new common European currency that will be used starting next month, the French either do not believe it or suspect that what the United States must really want is a Europe led by Britain.

The French foreign minister, Hubert

Vedrine, also worries about a world in which there is only one superpower the United States — overwhelming all other countries with its military, economic, technological and cultural strength. "Their weight carries them towards hegemonism, and the idea they have of their mission is unilateralism." he told the daily Liberation recently.

And that is not acceptable. French diplomats tell their U.S. friends that frank advice, not sycophantism, is the mark of true friendship. By that measure, France is indeed the most stalwart of allies.

BRIEFLY

Kurd Leader Seeks International Trial

FRANKFURT — The Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan told a German news program Sunday that he wants to stand trial on terror and murder charges before an interna-

tional court. Such a court could determine "if we or the Turkish government are responsible for the war against each other, in which many thousand people have died on both sides," he said in an interview with the television station ZDF.

Mr. Ocalan, the leader of the outlawed Kurdish Workers Party. was arrested Nov. 15 in Rome, where he remains under police guard as Italy weighs his request for asylum and European leaders work toward setting up an international

Turkish Cypriots Elect Legislators

began voting Sunday for a new Par-liament for their breakaway state.

About 120,000 voters will elect 50 legislators in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, which was declared in 1983 but is recognized only by Ankara. Legislative elections are held every five years. (AFP)

Support for Chirac

PARIS - President Jacques Chirac, back on the offensive after keeping a low profile for a year and a half, has struck the right note in calling for limits on strikes and for reforms in French politics, an opinion poll showed Sunday.

A resounding 82 percent of those polled applauded the conservative leader's call for minimum services to be assured on the frequently strike-hit state railways, the Journal du Dimanche weekly reported.

For the Record

The Dalai Lama has accepted an invitation from President Jacques Chirac to come to a French luncheon commemorating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Tibetan spiritual leader's office said Sunday. (AFP)

Porous Accord on Arms

Russia and Bulgaria Feed Fires in Trouble Spots

By Raymond Bonner New York Times Service

VIENNA - The United States and 32 other countries have concluded four days of arms control meetings here with a public commitment to exercise "maximum restraint" before selling weapons

the so-called Wassenaar Arrangement, an arms control organization that came into being after the Cold War, made clear that the areas they were most concerned about were Central Africa, where a half dozen countries are fighting in Congo, and the Hom of Africa, where Ethiopia and Eritrea are on the brink of full-scale war.

Russia is delivering the first contingent of \$150 million worth of combat aircraft, helicopters and other military requipment to Ethiopia. And Bulgaria said that it had recently issued licenses for the sale of tanks to Ethiopia and Uganda.
"That's not consistent with any com-

mitment to maximum vigilance," said a number of tanks they have managed to Western diplomat about the Russian sale, which was not known publicly until a few hours after the Wassenaar meeting closed here Thursday. Neither sale violates the Wassenaar

regime, or any other arms control treafies, which encourages advocates of Sii Lanka to rebels in Congo.

Interpretation on the conventional The Ethiopian deal earned the Bulweapons trade to campaign for new garian government \$4.4 million in

treaties that would keep weapons out of regional trouble spots. But Washington's efforts to put a few more teeth into Wassenaar have been thwarted by such. countries as Russia and France, U.S. and

European diplomats say. The Bulgarian tank sales were reamum restraint" before selling weapons ported last month by a Bulgarian newspaper. Trud, which said that 140 tanks by Behind closed doors, the delegates to had been sold to Ethiopia.

The newspaper reported that another deal, for 80 tanks, was pending, and these were going to Ethiopia and Uganda. Bulgaria acquired the T-55 tanks cheaply from Moscow during the

In response to written questions, the Bulgarian Ministry for Trade confirmed Thursday that licenses had been issued for tank sales to these countries, but it declined to discuss the details.

Uganda is not in the market for used tanks, U.S. officials in Africa say, but it had been giving support to the rebels in Congo, and has been the provider of apons to rebels in southern Sudan, who have surprised observers with the come up with in recent months.

In recent years, Bulgaria, which has seen its Soviet era defense industries plunged into economic misery, has become a prime arms bazaar, supplying rebel groups, from the Tamil Tigers in



FRENCH SHIELD - Planes carrying French equipment and troops after they landed Sunday in Skopje, Macedonia. NATO is setting up a force to protect observers of the cease-fire in neighboring Kosovo.

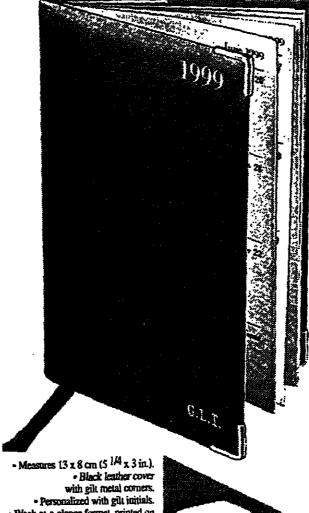
profit. Trud reported. An obviously pleased senior defense official told Trud that it was the best commercial year for the ministry since it sold tanks to Yemen

During the Wassenaar meetings here, Bulgarian diplomats were chagrined that their defense officials were gloating so openly about the deal, other diplomats who attended the meetings

The United States has largely ignored Bulgaria's arms dealings, but U.S. officials say that is about to change.

There are 33 members of the Wassenaar Arrangement, which is named for the Dutch city where agreement was first reached in 1995 to exchange information on sales, if only after the fact. The organization has been largely ineffective at stopping any transfers of conventional weapons.

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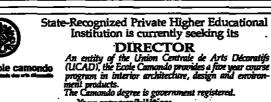
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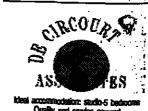
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Germany Debates 'Denglisch' English Expressions Ubiquitous in Advertising

I look forward to the

France and do not have

day when I go to

to speak French.'

By Roger Cohen

BERLIN — The fight to be the leading news - embraced the idea of being "Enropeans" or "cospany capital is a ferceion embraced the idea of being "Enropeans" or "cospany capital is a ferceion embraced the idea of being "Enropeans" or "citizens of the world." new capital is a ferocious one; so when executives at the Berliner Morgenpost sat down, citizens is English. recently to dream up a new advertising slogan.

idea, but "Simply the Best," as in the popular world, and that is the way we should all think song by Tina Turner. "Our target group was In the medium-term, nationalities have no chance."

Leafing people," said Rolf Buer, the paper's marking the keting manager, "and this slogan was young, fresh, simple and sure to get people talking. German words are just too long.

That may seem an unjust accession to level at "Einthat if precision is a hallmark of the German vocabulary, previty is not. In any event, the issue is clearly a broader one, for the English en-eroschment on Deutsch has

Consider this city, whose passion for rein-yenting itself is very much of the New World. As you drive past posters advertising Volkswagen's 'New Beefle' (not "Der neue Kafer"), you hay hear a radio advertisement for an Audi that since you "die nome" only to see a navarantee gives you "die power," only to see a newspaper leadline about Germany's lack of "jobs" (forget 'arbeit'), as the radio turns to a discussion of Berliners' growing attraction for "the American

English, of course, is advancing everywhere, propelled by the Internet and the dominance of merican popular culture. It is the most widely udied foreign language in German schools, where most children start learning it at age 11. Its dvance appears particularly marked here, strong enough to set off a debate on what it is to be a

issue ever since Hitler perverted the notion with disastrous consequences for those he considered

And, of course, the language of such world

"I don't like to think in terms of national they thought long and hard. What they came up borders," said Ulrich Veigel, head of the Bates with was: "Simply the Best."

Not "Einfach besser," German for the same many and was born here, but I'm a citizen of the

> English, Mr. Veigel continued, is a wonderful language precisely because it is the most cos-mopolitan. "I look forward to the day," he said, when I go to France and do

> > not have to speak French.' Until that day, Mr. Veigel will be pushing his message in Germany, where the Bates agency is responsible for the current campaign of the cargo division of the national airline, Lufthansa, Slogan: "Thinking in new direc-

assumed epic proportions,

"Thinking in new ourecgiving rise to a form of speech widely known as tions." It is also promoting a new German telephone company called First Telecom with the

of the language of Heine and Rilke is too high a price to be hip. Wolfgang Kramer, a professor of economics at the University of Dortmund, said Denglisch is a monstrosity, "a cowardly means for many Germans to disentangle themselves from

German history, a way out of being German." Two years ago, he read a profile of Jil Sander, the Hamburg-based fashion designer, in the magazine of the daily newspaper Frankfurter.
Allgemeine Zeitung. In a single paragraph, Ms.
Sander explained how her life was "giving story," talked of the need to be "contemporary," extolled the virtues of "coordinated concepts, Language, of course, is a paramount expression referred to her "audience" and ruminated on the of identity, and German identity has been a delicate "effortless magic" of her styles.



WAITING GAME - A protester dressed as Augusto Pinochet "hitchhiking" in Wentworth, where the former Chilean dictator is awaiting a decision on whether London will extradite him to Spain for trial on charges of genocide and torture.

That was too much for the professor. He founded the Society for the Protection of the German Language, instituted an annual linguistic booby prize for the Sprachpanscher (language diluter) of the year and gave the 1997 accolade to Ms. Sander.

This year, his society has seen its membership soar from 200 to 4,000 and last month, Mr. spineless conformity to modern pseudo-cosmopolitan attempts at showing off" had been awarded to Ron Sommer, chief executive of Deutsche

Telekom, the main telephone company. Mr. Sommer had distinguished himself by advertising "moonshine" and "sunshine" tariffs and by listing calls on bills under the car-egories of "Citycall," "Germancall" and Globalcall."

Until July, the German translations only appeared on the back of the bills. They have now been moved to the same line after what Hans Ehnert, a spokesman for Deutsche Telekom, called "some inquiries."

"Our chief executive pays no attention to this so-called prize," Mr. Ehnert said. "We are a global player in a modern, high-tech world, and free and flexible.'

English expressions are part of this future en-

But the success of Mr. Kramer's association suggests a reaction may be gathering pace. Shame explains why English does so much better here than in France, or Spain or Italy," he said. "But I refuse to let the history of our country be condensed into the 12 years of Hitler's terror. Kramer announced that the 1998 award for I was born much later and have no reason to be ashamed.'

This message is also that of the new government of the Social Democrat Gerhard Schroeder, which devoted much of a recent summit meeting with French leaders to the issue of defending "Franco-German culture" against the cultural pull of America through the establishment of a new French-German university in Saarbruecken, Germany, and other measures.

But, of course, France and Germany have a basic problem: The unfettered, dynamic, creative culture of California is more attractive to many young people than European societies often identified with high unemployment and rigidity.
"The young want to hear English," said Mr.

Buer of the Berliner Morgenpost. "It's seen as

7 More Algerians Slashed to Death

The Associated Press

أحكذامن الأحن

ALGIERS - Muslim militants slashed the throats of more people in a mountain town overnight, authorities said Sunday as Algeria's prime minister insisted the insurgency was under

The victims were killed "with savagery" Satarday night in the town of Merad, near Tipaza, 100 kilometers (60 miles) west of the capital, a government statement said.

Hospital officials said the militants slashed seven people to death and shot and wounded five

people who tried to flee.

The latest violence brought to 52 the number killed in a new wave of anacks in Algeria by militants that began last Wednesday. More than 75,000 people have died in nearly seven years of

The violence came shortly before a state-ofthe nation speech Sunday afternoon by Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia. In his two-hour televised talk before the Parliament, Mr. Ouyahia said the country's security situation "is con-stantly improving." He has repeatedly drawn derision for having insisted that the insurgency had been reduced to only "residual terrorism." But Mr. Ouyahia also told the lawmakers of

the need for "vigilance and mobilization." The prime minister did not mention his expected departure from office before an early presidential election scheduled for April. An official source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he was likely to announce his

resignation Thursday. Mr. Ouyahia is seen as a potential candidate for the election that President Liamine Zeroual announced Sept. 11. Mr. Zeroual is not running. Mr. Ouyahia pledged government help for terror victims and for families demanding information on

persons arrested by security forces. On the economic front, Mr. Ouyahia said that through an austerity plan, the government cut inflation to 5 percent this year from 29.7 percent in 1995. Mr. Ouyahia defended "the necessity to

liberalize the country's economy" and to do away with "the aid-dependent mentality." He said his government had refused an offer by

the International Monetary Fund to again reschedule the country's foreign debt.

Letting the Boom Slip Away

Armenians Choose Enclave Over an Energy Bonanza

By Stephen Kinzer New York Times Service

YEREVAN, Ameria - Across the Can-live on your own land is not for trade." casus and Central Asia, the most excited debates these days are about the Caspian energy are ready to talk, a wide gulf divides them, boom. Everyone wants to know who's up and "If Armenia would make peace with boom. Everyone wants to know who's up and

has turned this into the only country in the Oil Corp. But we would still consider it a region that will probably not share in the positive development, because settling that

Oil executives are expected to decide soon where to lay their vital pipeline from oil-rich Azerbaijan. The most direct route to the Mediterranean would run across Armenia. But pol-

President Heydar Aliyev of Azerbaijan has country. We will be a far distant province."

Fered to support construction of a "peace President Robert Kocharian of Armenia. offered to support construction of a "peace pipeline" across Armenia as part of a set-element. But Armenians feel a deeply visceral Somection to their consins in Nagorno-Kara-bakh, and few would agree to trade the enclave for a pipeline, even one that promised

them decades of prosperity. "This is not on the table." Prime Minister Armen Darbinyan said. "Karabakh, its freedom and the right to Although both sides in the dispute say they

who's down, which wells have come up dry, 'Azerbaijan, then of course the export line which are gushers and, most of all, where the would run through Armenia instead of Geor-Azerbaijan, then of course the export line gia," said Nicholas Gvazava, a senior ex-Armenia is the exception. Ethnic politics equitive of state-owned Georgia International

velopment prospects of the entire region." Most Armenians support their government's refusal to compromise over Nagomo-Karabakh. A few, though, wonder what it will mean ities makes that route impossible. Azerbaijan to be excluded from the pipeline network will not cooperate with Armenia until the two Mark Grigorian, a journalist and human-rights will not cooperate with Armenia that the two dark congorism, a journals and numan-rights countries settle their dispute over the enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh. The world accepts the enclave as part of Azerbaijan, but it has been beld and railroads go together with pipelines. If our by its ethnic Armenian residents since 1994, failure to get a pipeline means that we are after a war that cost 35,000 lives and forced hundreds of thousands from their homes.

Road trading routes, it means forget about this

however, scoffed at the suggestion that failure to join the oil boom would consign his country to poverty. Armenia will develop by using its human potential to compensate for its lack of

NATO: U.S. Is Urging Allies to Refocus Alliance

Continued from Page 1

might mean NATO using force to take out weapons or facilities in Iraq," said a se-nior American official. "But

The alliance's current
"s liegic concept," which
details its military and political mission, was last revised in 1991, before the Soviet Union finally collapsed, and still. talks of "strategic balance in

All NATO's 16 members - soon to be 19 with the addition of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic — agree five countries hold a veto, inthe concept needs updating chuding France.

And President Bill Climon While the alliance agreed determent of NATO's purpose

meeting he will host. 'We're not in the game of strategic balance anymore, but deaths of thousands of ethnic of collective defense and the extension of security beyond our borders," said a senior.

designed for voters instead of

generals, at the April summit

NATO-country diplomat.
That means NATO's enlargement to the east, its partnerships with nonmembers, in the Partnership for Peace or the relationship with Russia, matic, case-by-case apand operations like Bosnia Kosovo, the diplomat said. But it does not mean NATO tramping into the Middle East in pursuit of bi-Sgical weapons that might someday be used, he said, as the French originally feared.

retaining NATO as an effectivell as Canada, prefer NATO rive European instrument." to act, when not specifically caused a small tempest.

based on consensus in any event. "If member countries don't want NATO to do something, then NATO won't

do it," an official said. pushing the American-dominated NATO to be the instrument of "a new Holy Roman Empire," as one put it.

The current French concern is the so-called "mandate question," to try to ensure that NATO does not define " to try to ensure itself in the new strategic concept as able to act without reference to the United Na-

The legal basis in international law was "humanitarian in-Albanians.

Richard Holbrooke called sede, existing institutions Kosovo a precedent, German dealing with such weapons. and French officials say it was merely a special case. And the International Atomic Energy Americans for now are happy to agree and take the pragproach, without theology.

Washington is eager that the mandate debate not limit NATO's flexibility and render any military action militarizing the fight against subject to a Chinese or Russian veto in the Security Council. That would not only "Early American ideas that NATO might globalize said, but would "drive Consistent have faded," the diperior and the bend." But most European countries, as long said. "We're talking of most European countries, as

American officials argue in self-defense, under a Se that NATO is an alliance curity Council resolution.

Between now and April, officials say, there will be some language agreed upon that could refer simply to NATO acting on "a firm legal basis," or, as likely, there will be no

language on the issue at all.

If you try to overcomplicate this." a senior American official said with asper-

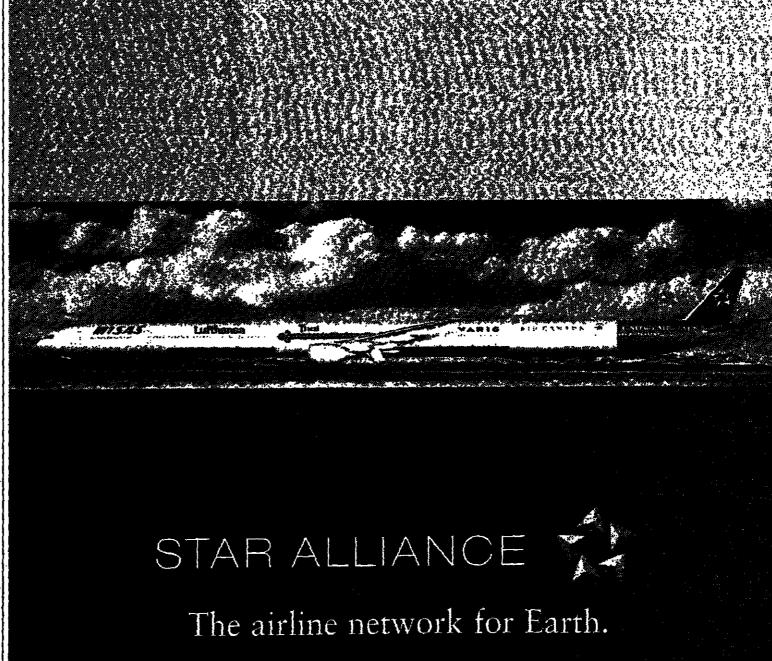
ity, "you will succeed."

Even the American initiative on weapons of mass destruction is not without con-European officials question the importance of the issue in the next century or object to more intelligence-sharing tions Security Council, where from Washington, they do have a set of concerns.

WMD initiative to overshadants to unveil the new doc-to threaten to bomb Serbian ow the April summit; they do ne, together with a simpler positions to halt the violence not want the Americans to act in Kosovo, it did so without a as if European countries have Security Council resolution. done nothing to protect themselves and their populations; they do not want the Amertervention" to prevent the icans to scare European publics to death; and they want NATO initiatives to enhance. But while the U.S. envoy and not duplicate or super-

> These institutions, like the Agency or the Nuclear Suppliers Group, concentrate on export controls of dangerous materials. Most European countries prefer to concentrate on perfecting and tightening such controls, and not proliferation, a European official said.

That is why recent com-ments by Defense Secretary William Cohen, rejecting German and Canadian calls for NATO to rule out the first use of nuclear weapons,



Corporate Conscience

Americans are understandably ambivalent about the foreign entanglements of U.S. business. Overseas operations can produce profits and support some jobs at home, but they can also help sustain abusive dictatorships and labor practices. In recent years companies like Nike and Unocal have embarrassed themselves with questionable overseas partnerships, but the problem extends far back in

U.S. industrial history.
The issue was highlighted last week in a Washington Post story on General Motors and Ford operations in Nazi Germany (IHT, Dec. 3). The Post reported that after the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1939, the chairman of GM, Alfred P. Sloan, told a shareholder that the internal politics of Nazi Germany 'should not be considered the business of the management of General Motors." The company plant in Germany was highly profitable.
"We have no right to shut down the plant," Mr. Sloan wrote.

General Motors and Ford deny that they helped the Nazis or significantly benefited from forced labor. The Post article said American Ford and GM executives accepted medals from Hitler. A GM executive met with Hitler and participated in converting the German GM plant to military production in 1939 and 1940.

The German Ford and GM plants were the largest producers of trucks for the German Army, according to U.S.
Army reports. Ford has found documents showing it profited slightly from its German plant during years when the plant used forced labor.

Ford and GM should give a thorough account of their actions in Germany, and pay appropriate compensation. But they were not the only U.S. businesses

to profit during the Third Reich. The world has no contemporary equivalent of Hitler. But for the past decade, U.S. companies have cozied up to the Burmese junta, Afghanistan's Ta-leban, Central Asian dictators, African kleptocrats and Colombia's military.

U.S. corporations argue that they can be a positive force in repressive countries. This can be true. They often pay better than local companies, and bad publicity has spurred some corporations to sponsor health clinics and other good works. But these benefits are outweighed by the political support companies lend to bad regimes. Few ever criticize their hosts' policies. Governments take their presence as a U.S. endorsement.

It is unrealistic to expect that corporations will refrain from trade or investment with bad governments. But they should hold themselves to some guidelines. Their own practices should not be abusive, even if local laws allow it. This means giving workers wages they can live on and good working conditions. They also should not collaborate with government repression.

Apparel manufacturers in China and elsewhere have fired workers trying to organize unions. Unocal, which is a partner with Burma's government in a gas pipeline project, is being sued in U.S. courts for alleged use of forced labor and forced expulsion of villagers. Last week. Unocal did end its efforts to work with the Taleban on a pipeline through Afghanistan, primarily because oil prices are low.

The entanglements of oil, gas, mining and other natural resource companies with dictatorships are complex, as the businesses sometimes find themselves keeping repressive governments afloat. The activities of Shell, a British-Dutch company, in Nigeria brought in nearly half the nation's hard currency.

Companies should use their tremendous power responsibly. Shell's image is still tainted by its failure to speak out strongly to prevent Nigeria's execu-tion in 1995 of nine environmental activists. Some regimes are so heinous that simply to continue making profits under them is reprehensible. Nazi Germany was surely one. Corporate officials are not only businessmen,

they are citizens of the world. -THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Censure the President

The House impeachment inquiry that is now winding down had two main purposes. One was to underscore and come to terms with the seriousness of what it was already clear that Bill Clinton had done - the months of lying, under oath and otherwise. The other was to establish whether he had done more — obstructed justice in the sense of trying to cause others to give false

testimony, withhold evidence, etc. The Judiciary Committee has failed utterly at the second of these tasks. The proceedings have been a joke; the only substantive witness has been the independent counsel, whose elaborate conclusions as to obstruction, tampering and the like rest mainly on circumstantial and other evidence insufficient to remove a president from office.

The committee, having developed no additional evidence, should drop the obstruction and related charges, as well as the dangerous notion that the president committed an impeachable offense — abuse of power — by even resisting the independent counsel's inquiries. All those charges are a stretch,

The first issue, of lying, rests precisely where it did when the proceedings began. The committee Republicans appear determined to send one or more articles of impeachment having to do with the lying to the floor. That seems right. All but five members of the House thought on the basis of what was before them before the election that there ought to be an inquiry. Now they should be the judge of the proceeds.

Given the chance to vote, however,

they should vote not to impeach but to censure the president. A resolution of censure — if not from the committee, then from the Republican or bipartisan leadership — should accompany any articles of impeachment to the floor. It ought to be toughly, unmistakably worded. There ought not be a way for the president to dispute its meaning or

its importance.

Censure is not an ideal answer to this tangle. In some ways it is too weak a response to the president's offense. The question of impeachment is a closer call than President Clinton and his supporters continue condescendingly to pretend. His own continuing dismissiveness is in the end what makes the charge against him hardest to dismiss — the refusal to acknowledge that lying elaborately and under oath is an reaches it as well. offense that even raises a question as to

his fitness to serve. He asks the country to lower the standard of judgment so that he can remain in office. That is the ultimate self-indulgence in this case

and the ultimate cost. The arguments against impeachment are of a different kind. It would be enormously disruptive. The Senate would be unlikely to convict. The president has only two years left in his ferm, and impeachment would consume years that this miserable matter would end up taking out of the national life.

Mr. Clinton is flawed; he also was reelected, and it is no small thing to reverse a national election result. The case arose from personal behavior, which to some degree was used by the president's ideological enemies in an effort to bring him dowr. It weakens the country if a president can be dislodged too easily. No manter that he could have obviated all the harm, prevented the entire occurrence, had he simply chosen to say forthrightly "yes" instead of "no," told the truth instead of thinking he could once more duck it.

Some Republicans want to deny the House a chance to vote on censure. They think impeachment will gain if they give members no choice, and thereby deny them the cover of an alternative. The president's Democratic defenders could be attacked in the next election as defenders of perjury. It is the wrong way to conduct these proceedings, still another example of how the harder liners among the Re-publicans make it difficult for the party

responsibly to govern.

This is one issue where the House ought not be cornered. It ought to be free to get to the result it wants. In this light, the White House demand for extra time to mount a dissent seemed suspiciously like a filibuster meant to bump House deliberations into the next, supposedly more hospitable, Congress; the Judiciary Committee chairman, Henry Hyde, said that he perhaps could provide one more day.

Tough censure is not the perfect outcome. There isn't a perfect outcome to this miserable case. But censure beats impeachment. On the basis of the evidence as assembled by the independent counsel and committee, that is the grudging judgment we have reached, and we hope the House

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

Herald Eribune

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Obuchi's Stand: Don't Take Japan for Granted

NEW YORK — In Japan it is high praise to say a politician has the definess, lightness of touch and patience to uproot and lift a tree from the ground with chopsticks. Japan may have unexpectedly found such a politi-

cian in Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi. Mr. Obuchi, a skilled but little known back-room operator, took office in August as a caretaker after his flamboyant and ambitious predecessor, Ryutaro Hashimoto, lost his party's confidence. But Mr. Obuchi has come into his own in the past week, completing an intricate round of summiry that strengthened him domestically while unveiling Japan's new priority in world affairs.

That priority is the determination not to be taken for granted by the two powers that Japan's leaders feel are doing so: the United States and China. Tokyo's current complaints go beyond routine diplomatic maneuver-

ing for advantage with Washington.
As President Bill Clinton's administration deals with the loud crises of Iraq, North Korea and Kosovo, a silent crisis of confidence is eating away at the foundations of the Washington-Tokyo alliance.

In the long aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet empire, three related developments have shaken Tokyo's confidence in U.S. commitments and in

By Jim Hoagland

its own mercantilistic foreign policy, which de-emphasizes military concems and power politics. First is the long economic stagnation

that grips Japan's tottering banking system and bloated industrial base. The corrosive effect on Japan's politics of that stagnation - and of the unrelenting, often scapegoating criticisms of Japan by U.S. officials — are trenchantly outlined in Yoichi Funabashi's article, "Tokyo's Depression Diplomacy," in Foreign Affairs magazine. Japan, the commentator observes, "is in a deep funk."

The second development is the mesmerizing of U.S. diplomacy by the nuclear tests of India and Pakistan in the spring and by the American struggle with North Korea over its nuclear and missile programs. U.S. officials have subordinated relations with Japan to these other regional priorities on several important occasions in recent months.

The unintended but unmistakable U.S. message for Tokyo: The only Asian countries that count in the highest councils are those that have nuclear weapons. The U.S. slights will not cause Japan to reverse its ban on acquiring nuclear arms. But they have made Tokyo

reconsider its other strategic options. The third and most important development has been the emergence of China as the potential regional superpower in Asia, Mr. Clinton's exaggerated embrace of President Jiang Zemin's regime has fanned suspicions in Tokyo that the U.S. administration thinks it is playing a China card against Japan — that Washington's coziness with the

Leninist leadership in Beijing has the

hidden agenda of frightening Tokyo into making trade and other concessions. It is an interesting, complex theory that might have merit were Henry Kissinger still secretary of state. But today, ineptness is a more likely engine of policy than strategic dupli-

city in Washington.

China 'barely conceals its desire to weaken the U.S.-Japanese relationship," as Mr. Funabashi writes, and pays no price with Mr. Clinton for that ambition. Mr. Jiang even manipulated Mr. Clinton into criticizing Japan's economic policies while the president was on Chinese soil in June, a gaffe that

still rankles in Tokyo.

During a six-day tour of Japan that ended last week, Mr. Jiang constantly thrust a thumb in the Japanese eye. He demanded a formal apology for World War II atrocities and sought written promises from Mr. Obuchi that Japan

would always oppose Taiwanese self-determination and membership in international organizations. After all, Mr. Jiang intimated, Mr. Clinton had voiced those promises in Shanghai this summer. How could mere Japanese refuse to follow?

Mr. Obuchi did refuse both demands, placing Washington and Beijing on notice that Japan will not meekly follow their lead from now on His elegant apology for Japanese crimes to South Korea's democratically elected president, Kim Dae Jung in a September summit meeting set the stage for his principled refusal of the same concessions to the Communist
Party boss, Mr. Jiang.
There were also strong domestic rea-

sons for Mr. Obuchi to take a firm line with the truculent Mr. Jiang. Not kowconservative factions whose support Mr. Obuchi needs to win his own term as prime minister next year. He also got high marks in Tokyo for hosting Mr. Clinton in November in a low-key practical manner that lowered at least temporarily the rhetorical temperature.

Taking others for granted seems to be a finely developed art for Bill Clinton in many fields. In the case of Japan, Keizo Obuchi is saying it is time to stop.

The Washington Post.

Adding to the Rhetoric Over North Korea: Talk of War

HONOLULU — North Korea has military forces will "annihilate" U.S. and South Korean forces if a new war breaks out on the Korean Peninsula. At the same time, North Korean forces have gone from their barracks to the field for

rinter training. The deputy minister of Pyongyang's armed forces, Jong Chang Ryol, said last week that if the United States and South Korea "unleash a war, our People's Army will blow up the U.S. territory." In a statement carried by Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency, Mr. Jong said the armed forces would deliver "an annihilating blows to the agreement."

hilating blow to the aggressors."

A day later, the official North Korean newspaper, Rodong Sinmun, asserted that a new U.S. war plan and demands that Pyongyang permit inspection of suspected nuclear facilities amounted to 'declaration of war.'

Coming amid talks between U.S. and North Korean diplomats in New York, Mr. Jong's statement appeared to be more intense than the normal bluster of Pyongyang's pugnacious negotiating style. For years, North Korea has ratcheted up public pronouncements in an attempt to en- the finishing touches on a new war conall strate or have been been

By Richard Halloran

hance its position at the bargaining table. In the current negotiations, the U.S. has sought access to underground sites in North Korea that may house new nuclear facilities in violation of a 1994 agreement under which Pyongyang agreed to halt development of nuclear arms. The North Koreans, strapped for hard currency in their disastrous economy, have so far refused access unless the United States pays \$300 million dollars for what they claim to be

an insult to their sovereignty.
While the North Korean bombast may be just that, U.S. officials in Seoul and Washington have not brushed it aside as in the past. Military maneuvers of the kind Pyongyang's army is conducting are inherently dangerous: They look much like forces preparing for attack, especially when they are close to the Demilitarized

Zone that splits the peninsula.

To execute a decisive response, the Combined Forces Command that has operational control of U.S. and South Korean forces in South Korea is putting

tingency plan. It calls on the military not only to repel a North Korean invasion but also to march north to demolish the North Korean armed forces and capture Pyong-yang. A senior U.S. official in Seoul said that the North Korean regime would be ended and the country "reorganized"

under South Korean control. The North Korean Army, although it outnumbers the combined forces of South Korea and the United States, has largely obsolete weapons and is inadequately trained because of shortages of food, fuel, spare parts, maintenance and all other support.
Under the new U.S.-South Korean

plan, every gun and tank emplacement near the 242-kilometer-long (151-mile-long) Demilitarized Zone, every am-munition and supply depot, bridge and crossroads, command post and commu-nications node is on a specific target list. High priority would be given to a North Korean artillery corps in a central sector where it could fire due south toward Scoul. Many of North Korea's 10,600 artillery pieces have limited

range, but 200 multiple rocket launchers of 240 millimeters could hit Seoul. Much of that artillery is parked in underground shelters but must be pulled out to fire and thus become vulnerable could also be taken out by bombing exis before the artillery emerges. "We can bory them," a military planner said.

North Korean targets would be attacked by U.S. B-1 and B-52 bombers, which could fly from the United States within 24 hours. More American airpower would come from U.S. bases in South Korea and Japan and from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk, based in Japan. U.S. submarines armed with cruise missiles patrol off North Korean coasts; more could arrive from Pearl Harbor in Hawaii within five days.

The war plan envisions possible amphibious assaults into North Korea involving all three combat divisions of the U.S. Marine Corps. In perhaps the most famous battle in the Korean War of 1950-1953, the United States broke North Korean forces with an amphibious landing at the port of Inchon, west of Seoul.

The writer, a former military correspondent for The New York Times, contributed this comment to the International tional Herald Tribune

Locust of the Page 1.

acher this end acher A Consensus on Preserving Taiwan's Separate Identity

By Philip Bowring

HONG KONG — The significance of Taiwan's legislative and mayoral elections has been to demonstrate what an ordinary country it has become. These were elections conducted with American-style razzledazzle and fought not over the ideological questions of relations with mainland China, but over personalities, local issues. the economy, domestic policies and party organization.
The New Party, which favors

reunification with China, saw its vote almost cut in half to 7 percent, while the nominally all majority in the legislature. pro-independence opposition, the Democratic Progressive Party, saw a huge setback to its hopes of eventually becoming Taiwan's largest party. Beijing will doubtless take

showing. Their share of the leg-islative vote fell Saturday to 29 percent from 33 percent in 1995. Those who gained the most were independents, a tribute to the local nature of Taiwan politics and its unusual voting system - one vote per elector in a multiplemember constituency. The vote for the Nationalist Party, or Kuomintang, was steady at 46 percent, leaving it with a clear over-

The concentration on personalities was displayed in the mayoral elections. In Taipei, the success of the Kuomintang's rising star, Ma Ying-jeou, 48, over the Democratic Progress-

Invest in Alternatives to Oil

These newer energy sources

kets today. But that was the

case for oil at the turn of the

century, when it was used

primarily for lighting. Just as

happened with oil, double-di-

git growth rates will soon turn

the new energy sources into

major investment opportuni-

ties. The wind power industry

has created 20,000 new jobs in

the past five years alone - a

stark contrast to the 9,000 jobs

that will be lost as a result of

In the last year, a few lead-

ing automakers announced

plans for a new generation of

fuel cell cars that could be run

the Exxon-Mobil merger.

comfort from the Democratic ives' populist incumbent, Chen Progressives' relatively poor Shui-bian, 47, was matched by the ouster of the Nationalists' long-time incumbent in Kaohsiung, Wu Den-yih.

Not much broad political significance can be read into these results. The contests were never over relations with the mainland. But they do emphasize the degree of consensus that exists on the paramountcy of maintaining Taiwan's de facto in-dependent status. Whatever the personal feelings of Mr. Ma, who is of mainland origin, or Mr. Chen, who wears his Taiwan identity on his sleeve, there is little political mileage in stir-

ring up cross-straits issues.

The election does have im-

Party's hopes that Mr. Chen might have had a chance of victory over the Kuomintang candidate in the presidential election in 2000. It thus spares Beijing a difficult decision on whether to address the Demo-cratic Progressive "threat" with its own threats or by opening lines of communication with those Democratic Progressive Party leaders symwith the mainland.

But by the same token, the election underlines the almost total absence of desire for reunification. Japan's refus-al to follow President Bill Clinton in conforming to Beijing's "three no's" has given Taiwan added confidence in its ability to sustain the status quo. Beijing's hopes of significant progress on reunification have thus been dimmed. President Lee Teng-hui of

Taiwan, too, may have mixed feelings about the election results. The Knomintang victory has strengthened his own position. But it has also highlighted the positions of Mr. Ma and the provincial governor James Soong Neither is close to Mr. Lee, and Mr. Ma is viewed as untainted by Knomintang money politics, Both Mr. Ma and Mr. Soong are more popular than Vice President Lien Chan.

Some in Taiwan fear that an administration run by Mr. Ma or

portant consequences. It dims Mr. Soong would move away the Democratic Progressive from Mr. Lee's identification with Taiwan's separate identity.
There is talk already that Mr. Lee himself, although 76, may want to run again for election in 2000 to defend his legacy. Beijing, for one, believes that almost anyone would be preferable to the vilified Mr. Lee, whom it sees as a covert promoter of Taiwan's independence.

But this view probably over Progressive Party leaders sym-pathetic to closer economic ties craic Taiwan is proving independent-minded but pragmatic. The divide between those of Taiwan and mainland origin is croding. Indeed Mr. Ma presented himself as a younger generation leader who bridged old frictions. The economic benefits of moves toward reunification, meanwhile, now appear less clear than they did when China was booming and political reform on the mainland appeared possible.

Despite its youth, its rancous

and sometimes money-driven character, democracy in Taiwan is proving a stabilizing factor. No one can win election who does not defend Taiwan's separate identity, but neither an one who risks the status doe in pursuit of an ideal. The importance of personality politics is evidence of a social consensus and an unspoken compromise on the issues of Taiwanese and Chinese identities. Taiwan is a successful, normal country that wants to stay that way.

International Herald Tribune.

that may be deepened by the

WASHINGTON — The planned \$80 billion deal between the oil giants Exxon energy industry has expanded

By Christopher Flavin and Seth Dunn

between the oil giants Exxon energy industry has expanded and Mobil provides one more by an average of 16 percent indication that the oil industry per year and the wind power is ering a gerianic phase in industry by 25 percent, rates that the oil industry has not prices are forcing companies to known for decades. cut costs ruthlessly to survive. Oil companies must do fill relatively small niche mar-

more than merge if they want to keep up with the changes in the international energy economy. World oil use is growing at only 1.4 percent per year, oil prices are down and global warming is tightening the squeeze on the industry. Partly as a result of more countries diversifying their energy supplies because of environmental concerns, oil prices have fallen to less than \$12 per barrel — down 80 percent since the early 1980s.

Despite prodigious exploration efforts, known oil resources have expanded only marginally in the last quartercentury. Eighty percent of the oil produced today comes from fields discovered before 1973. Remaining oil resources are so limited that world production will peak in the next 10 to 20 years.

tronics and synthetic materials

could quickly usher in a de-

on ethanoi, natural gas or hydrogen, rather than oil. As such technologies begin to take hold a decade or so from now, oil demand could shrink sharply. The prospect of climate disruption forcing the world away from oil has led some oil The energy industries with companies to diversify their the highest growth rates are energy portfolios. In a landwind and solar power. A new mark statement last year. John generation of advanced elec-

Browne, chairman of British

Petroleum, said that BP had

accepted the scientific reality

in solar energy. Another Europe-based oil major, Roy-al Dutch/Shell, later announced plans to invest \$500 million in renewable energy. Such moves have opened a trans-Atlantic environmental divide in the oil industry, one

Exxon-Mobil deal. Both companies have actively questioned the science of climate change and have lobbied the U.S. Senate not to ratify the Kyoto Protocol that seeks to curb emissions of greenhouse gases. This policy of denial may blind the combined company to changes in the energy marketplace. Exxon and Mobil both walked away from major solar investments in the 1980s, in contrast to the recent moves of BP and Shell.

The risk facing Exxon-Mobil and some other petrolearn titans is that they will be so focused on cost-effectively exploiting remaining oil reserves in remote corners of the world that they will miss the far larger and more lucrative investment opportunities opening up the alternative energy arena.

Mr. Flavin is senior vice president and Mr. Dunn is a research associate at the Worldwatch Institute, a nongovernmental environment monitoring group in Washington. They contributed this centralized solar-hydrogen of climate change and would comment to the energy system in the early deadd to its existing investment Herald Tribune. comment to the International

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AG

1898: Nicaragua Canal here than in Italy leaves no doubt

the United States and the prospect of increased trade with the Far East have made an interoceanic canal a necessity. The Panama Canal would cost at least \$130,000,000. On the other hand, the cost of the Nicaragna Canal would be about \$65,000,000. If the United States desires to secure control of an ocean highway, the Goverament must act energetically.

1923: Jazzing Opera

NEW YORK — The verdict for damages granted to Giacomo Puccini in Milan against a music publisher, for jazzing strains from "Madame Butterfly," was regarded as the forerunner of suits in America. The fact that the jazzed version of the Puccini-opera has been more published

ويرين الأمل

PARIS — [The Herald says in an Editorial.] The addition of Hawaii and the Philippines to here will be based upon the conthat the composer will take steps tention that "jazzing" strains from a classical composition is not degrading to the author.

1948: Interracial Store

NEW YORK - A new interracial venture, one of the first in the United States, involving partnership between whites and Negroes, opened in Harlem Samuel L. Feldman, spokesman for a group of white investors, said a number of retail not chants, some of whom Negroes, have joined in the pro-motion of a department store. The business will provide Negroes with an opportunity to emerge as merchants in Harlem. There have been complaints that discriminatory practices by white store owners have pre-vented them from doing so.

giore Sr., a Por peratic Party.

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Markey Planton & B

Rise in Cigarette Smoking Doesn't Bother Burma Government

ternational Herold Tribune

Soe Thein Oo attended a concert a few potential smokeas.

Along with all the other ticket holders he received free Golden Hagle cigarettes and a plastic lighter to ignite them. Like most people at the concert, he smoked

haze descends each time young women venture with a holding company owned flock through handing out free Golden by the country's ruling military. The Eagle cigarettes and lighting them up for three year-old venture turned a profit

"They don't give them to children, but said, and there are already plans to exarctics," the rea shop owner said. "People Rapid sales growth in Burma and always like to get things for free."

Burma as tobacco multinationals focus: announcement last month. MANDALAY, Burma - When U their powerful marketing machines on

have a financial stake in tobacco sales. Tobacco companies themselves also rely increasingly on profits from the region's poorest countries.

through the pack.

At U Hoke Ho's tea shop, in the town whose London brand is the market leadof Shipaw, farther north in Bunna, a er in Bunna, runs a factory in a joint

Rapid sales growth in Burma and Victuam helped push up Rothmans' pretax profit by 15.4 percent in the first

to cigarettes by free handouts and slick sales in Singapore, the company's only advertising tactics never before seen in other market, according to a company to according to government statistics.

The Burmese government likes dealmonths ago by Iron Cross, the most This has led to a rapid increase in nies because it can more reamly compound popular Burnese heavy inetal band, he smoking among young people in Burna revenue from large factories or important more than just an earful of Desert and in other countries in Southeast ers than it can from small-time producers of hand-rolled smokes like Burna's traing with multinational eigerette compaditional cheroots, according to Brigadier General Maung Maung, head of the foreign investment commission.

After Rothmans, Burma's second-largest foreign investor in cigarettes is the Indonesian giant Sampoema, fol-lowed by a small South Korean stake in Myanmar Glacier Tobacco.

Imported cigarettes commonly avail-able in Burma include brands produced by British American Tobacco - including 555, Benson & Hedges, Lucky Strike and Viceroy — along with Philip Morris's Marlboro and RJR Nabisco's Camel and Salem.

From zero a decade ago, tobacco imports to Burma rose to more than 1,700 metric tons in 1996. Tobacco imports in 1995 were worth \$142 million and accounted for about 6 percent of the nation's total merchandise imports, accord-

ing to a study by the U.S. government.
General Manng Manng said the Burmese government was very concerned about the increased number of young smokers and had already begun imposing controls, such as a recent ban against tobacco advertising on televi-

Mariboro cowboys recently stopped riding across viewers' screens, but other brands still broadcast ads regularly on television despite the ban, and few in Burma come in contact with cigarettepack health warnings. A pack of 20 cigarettes costs the equivalent of about

written in English.

The cigarette companies say their advertising is aimed at adults and is intended to maintain brand loyalty or to entice those who already smoke to change brands. But the young people of Burma have received a very different message.

"My generation smokes, not my fa-ther's," said U Win Aung, a 26-year-old in the town of Maymyo who began smoking at age 17. 'Cigarettes are modem and free-style. I am not so choosy about the brand so long as it has Virginia

U Win Aung said that even strong health warnings would not deter him from smoking now. He enjoys spending one evening each weekend drinking Mandalay rum and smoking with friends at Summer Feelings, a popular new bar along the dusty main street of Maymyo.
"The cinema is censored, and there

one day's salary for manual laborers, so are no nightclubs or live shows," he Across the country young people tell pretax profit by 15.4 percent in the first Domestic production has increased to most smokers support their habit cig-said. "Beyond smoking there is no entertainment."

Albert Gore Sr., a Power In Democratic Party, Dies Talk

By Irvin Molotsky New York Times Service

be U.S. vice president and a longtime the unpopular side of an issue.

powerful figure in the Democratic Party. In 1956, Mr. Gore was one of only powerful figure in the Democratic Party, died Saturday at his home in Carthage, three weeks before his 91st birthday, the White House said. Vice President Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, were with Mr. two years earlier. Siding with him were Gore when he died

resented Tennessee in the Senate, where he was regarded as one of the few lib-1970 in a bitter campaign in which the Republican victor, William Brock 3d, derided Mr. Gore's support of busing and civil rights legislation and his opposition to the war in Victoriam.

That campaign was said to have been so nasty that it temporarily soured his son's view on politics. But the younger Mr. Gare went on to be elected to the House of Representatives, to the Senate and in 1992 to the vice presidency. In 1952, Albert Gore Sr. was elected

to the Senate, where he did not fit the York died Wednesday of heart failure in mold of either the Northern liberals or New York.

the Southern conservatives. He was known as one of the Senate's best debaters and was considered a possible WASHINGTON — Albert Gore Sr., vice presidential nominee in 1956 and a former Tennessee senator, the father of 1960, but he frequently found himself on

Supreme Court's desegregation decision two years earlier. Siding with him were Lyndon Johnson and Estes Kefauver. From 1953 to 1970, Mr. Gore rep- But in 1968, with Johnson now president and prosecuting the war in Vietnam, Mr. Gore said in a speech at the University of erals among Southern Democrats. His Idaho that the administration should get liberalism contributed to his defeat in out of the "morass in Vietnam."

In a tribute Saturday night, President Bill Clinton said, "Albert Gore Sr. was the embodiment of everything public service ought to be.' Vladimir Dokondovsky, 79;

A Founder of Ballet Theater NEW YORK (NYT) - Vladimir Dokoudovsky, 79, a founding member of Ballet Theater, a principal dancer with the Ballets Russes troupes of the 1930s and '40s and an influential teacher in New

forerunner of American Ballet Theater,

Mr. Dokondovsky was among the dancers who in 1940 formed the nucleus of the first New York season of Ballet Theater, as the company was originally called.

with the Monte Carlo company in 1938 and with the colonel's group from 1942 to 1952, interrupting his tenure there to return to the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo

Albert Gore Sr. with his son, the vice president, in a 1993 photograph. As a member of the Mordkin Ballet, a onel W. de Basil's Ballets Russes and the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo. He danced

He was best known for his appearances with the two organizations that tried to preserve the heritage of Diaghilev's innovative Ballets Russes: Col-

*IMPEACH: Republicans and Democrats Alike See the House Moving Against Clinton

Continued from Page 1

rate lo

peachment before the 81 answers were few weeks," and that the Senate could contended, the Republican leadership delivered, those numbers have dropped. proceed with other business even during was blocking the plan. He opposes impeachment, saying that a trial. the allegations against Mr. Clinton are

serious but not impeachable. Mr. DeLay, meanwhile, said only five Republicans in the House now oppose impeachment along with five or six Democrats -- meaning a vote to impeach might narrowly carry. If it did, the Senate would conduct a trial of the president, beginning early next year, for only the second time in American history. The first was the 1868 impeachment of President Andrew Johnson: he survived conviction by a single vote.

The impeachment process could tie up the Senate for weeks or months. Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader, said

Democrats in the House, meanwhile, disruptive way to end the crisis.

Representative John Conyers, the ranking Democrat on the Judiciary seeking "to close down the censure route when we know that there are a lot way to maintain their integrity and move publicans to vote for impeachment. to the exit door."

Representative Peter King, a Republican from New York, has been trying to gain support for a plan that would in-clude a strongly worded apology by Mr. not talked to any member and asked any

in the House," he said on CBS, "cerassailed Mr. Dellay's vote-counting and tainly you would have 15 to 20 Reblamed him for blocking efforts to fash-ion a censure of Mr. Clinton as a less against impeachment."

The White House, concerned by the rising tide toward impeachment, said a professor of history at Princeton. last week, for the first time, that it was Committee, criticized Mr. Delay for open to the possibility of a fine in the context of a censure agreement.

Mr. Conyers asserted that Mr. DeLay of people in both parties looking for a was placing maximum pressure on Re-But Mr. DeLay said that was "absolutely false." Democrats, he said, "are

'whipping' the vote, they're putting a lot Sunday that if the upper house was clude a strongly worded apology by Mr. not talked to any member and asked at called on to try the president, he hoped to Clinton, a censure vote by Congress and member to vote one way or another."

conclude the process "very briskly." In some kind of fine. He said he had present an interview on NBC he said that he ted the plan to the White House and "the diciary Committee goes, Mr. Clinton's "tould see it taking a few days to just a White House is considering it." But, he are laid out in the Constitution, but none "If there was a censure vote allowed of the key participants in the Lewinsky drama. The list includes Nicholas Katzenbach, an attorney general during the ad-ministration of Lyndon Johnson; Bruce Ackerman, a professor of constitutional law at Yale University, and Sean Wilentz,

Given the growing bitterness among those favoring impeachment, the lawyers will have a delicate time trying to construct a solid defense without further

alienating any wavering lawmakers.
One Republican member of the Judiciary Committee, Representative Bill McCollum of Florida, said Sunday that he favored passing as many as four articles of impeachment, dealing with alleged perjury, obstruction of justice and

Palestinians In Prison Start **Hunger Strike**

Agence France-Presse
GAZA CITY — More than 2,000 Palestinian political prisoners held in prisons across Israel started a hunger strike Sunday to demand their release, the Palestinian Authority said.

The hunger strike started less than a week before President Bill Clinton was to arrive for a visit to Israel and the Palestinian territories in a bid to shore up

the troubled peace process.

"The 2,400 political prisoners have launched an unlimited hunger strike in a bid to leave the prisons where they continue to languish five years after the signing of the Oslo accords with Israel," said Hisham Abdel Razek, the Pales-

tinian minister for prisoner affairs. The Union of Palestinian Prisoners, based in Gaza City, called on the population to demonstrate its solidarity with

the hunger strikers by staging protests. But the Israeli prison authority said not all Palestinian prisoners were observing the strike. A spokeswoman for the prison service said that fewer than half the political prisoners held in civilian prisons, which excludes those held in Israeli Army detention centers, were participating. The army said that several hundred prisoners in its camps were not eating, without giving precise numbers.

■ Strong Words From Netanyahu

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about the standards for impeachment that Sunday of "making a farce" of the latest peace accords and said he would not agree to further troop withdrawals until anti-Israeli violence ceases, The Associated Press reported from Jerusalem.

Mr. Netanyahu said in an interview that the Palestinians were emboldened to foment street riots and threaten to declare statehood because they believed that they had the tacit support of the United States. "The Palestinians are making a farce out of the Wye River accord. They think they have the United States in their back pocket," he said. 'As long as that is the case, they will not

change their behavior." Mr. Netanyahu said he did not believe that the United States was siding with the Palestinians, but his remarks signaled that he would like Mr. Clinton to lower Palestinian expectations prior to his visit.

Drug Exposé Aired as Fact On U.S. TV Was a Fake

By T. R. Reid Washington Post Service

LONDON - A prize-winning documentary about Colombian drug-runners that was proadcast on the CBS News program "60 Minutes" was a fake, a commission has concluded, with paid actors portrayed as drug dealers and the pro-ducer's hotel room disguised as a

drug kingpin's jungle hideout. An independent panel of lawyers and veteran producers said the news program, "The Connection," was essentially fiction. The film had dra-matic footage of a drug "mule" said to be carrying millions of dol-lars worth of heroin to London for the Cali drug cartel in Colombia. The panel concluded that there was 'mule' and no heroin, and that the "important new smuggling route" the program purported to

expose did not exist.

The documentary was made by Carlton Communications, a prominent British television and film production company, and was sold to CBS in 1997. It features hidden cameras, disguised-voice interviews, secretive locations and other tools of documentary filmmakers.

The flaws in the production were first revealed in May by The Guardian, a British newspaper. The report prompted Carlton to set up the independent panel, which issued its

report Friday.
CBS did not undertake its own study of the program, but said that the results of the British probe will be reported on "60 Minutes."

'The Connection' has been broadcast around the world and has won eight journalism awards, including three in the United States. Carlton said it would return the awards and refund the fees it received from networks that bought the program.

The expansion of cable and satel-lite television channels has created a large new market for documentaries. Producers say some filmmakers use

paid actors and other false techniques to spice up their offerings.

The study panel concluded that the flaws with "The Connection" went deeper, however. It said that the basic conclusion of the program - that Colombian drug dealers have opened a new smuggling route port in London - was false.

A person said to be a drug "mule" is shown swallowing rubber balloons said to contain heroin. The smuggler is then filmed arriving at Heathrow. On "60 Minutes," a reporter, Steve Kroft, said that the mule had "no problem" getting past Customs and that "another pound of heroin was on the British streets."

In fact, the panel said, the smug-gler was a hired actor who swallowed sugar or mints. And when he arrived, Customs officials immediately sent him back to Colombia because of passport problems.

The panel said it could not determine whether the producer, Marc de Beaufort, knew about all the false elements of his documentary.

VOTE: Mired in Dirty Politics, St. Petersburg Struggles to the Polls

depression, crime, corruption, resurgent anti-Semitism and political decay.

'In some sense, the hopes for democracy rest in St. Petersburg today,' said Leonid Kesselmen, a sociologist and political columnist. "The Russian

s' is turning away from the democratic cause, and this city can help right it." All 50 seats in the municipal assembly were up for grabs in the first-round voting Sunday, and close to 600 candidates were running. The assembly is unusual because, under a new city charter, it possesses powers to hold the executive branch accountable for its actions. Balance-of-power politics is rare in Russia. Authoritarian mayors, governors and the president all exercise vast powers of rule-

by-decree, while legislatures are limited pargety to budget oversight, if that Oleg Sergeyev's race illustrates the stakes. The incumbent, a physician fought to reform the city's procurement. of prescription drugs for the needy. He charged that purchases were made from a cabal of companies that charged high

prices and delivered substandard goods. him outside his apartment, fracturing his ribs and skull with a truncheon. He was hospitalized for two months. Mr. Sergeyev declared his candidacy anyway, ure to hand over the two suspects, will but his campaign was quickly mixed in a indeed be lifted when it turns the men muck of brazes dirty tricks: the ap- overpearance of the two mystery candidates, false invitations put out under his name inviting voters to free food handouts, and opponents who offered voters money in advance of the balloting and a bonus if the rivals won. The phantom Netherlands for a trial by Scottish ivals supposedly exist. One is a retiree, judges.

cording to registration records. "It is not enough anymore for gangsters to influence politics," said Mr. Sergeyev, a two-time assembly member.

"They want to take direct charge." Mr. Sergeyev, who has traveled in the company of a bodyguard since April, spent company of a bodygnam since repairing off up.

This is the third time in his first two. Italy in case the suspects were released. saborage. And he is not alone in his cam-

against three other mystery candidates against a student named Yuri Kravstov. The reform candidate Alexander Belyaev was opposed at one point by a sea captain who later relented and announced he was given \$900 to declare his candidacy. He declined to say who had paid.

Candidates for the Yabloko party are up against a newly invented group called Yabloko St. Petersburg, whose head-quarters addresses turned out to be false. At a polling station near the Marinsky Theater, a woman scanned a candidate roster and noted there were two Albert Baranovs listed. "Can someone help me?" she asked plaintively.

the chances of respectable candidates,"

Continued from Page 1 paign against false doubles, or dvotrikt. In said Yelena Tsembalistova, a medical the 16th district, the housing reform incresearcher. "I don't know who is doing vive the nationwide plague of economic cumbent, Sergei Andreyev, faced off it, but they are hungry and powerful." against three other mystery candidates
with the same name. The former speaker of
the assembly, Yuri Kravstov, was running
said. First, Vladimir Yakovlev, the equivalent of mayor, has resisted the legislature's drive to hold him account-

able for city business.

Aides say Mr. Yakovlev is taking a
neutral stand in the election, but the hands-off approach means nothing is being done to curb fraud. The city prosecutor's office has taken no steps to punish either false candidacies or votebuying schemes.

Gangsters are battling to control municipal resources, everything from real estate and the port to cemeteries and the supply of fuel for city transport. Newly e?" she asked plaintively. formed groups are making war on es-"This is clearly being done to reduce tablished organized criminals. Assassination is the frightening tool of choice.

Spanish Rightists Held in Gibraltar

ALGECIRAS, Spain - Police in Gibraltar arrested a far-right leader and six other Spanish rightists after they replaced a British flag with a Spanish one, the authorities said Sunday.

Ricardo Saenz de Ynestrillas, 33,

who leads the far-right Alliance for National Unity, was held at the po-lice station in the British colony. The other arrestees were not identified.

"The flag that waves there is not the right one," said Marisa Alonso, a spokeswoman for the Spanish party. "It should be ours."

Gibraltar, on the southern tip of Spain, has bedeviled relations between Spain and Britain since the land was ceded to Britain under the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713.

LIBYA: Annan's Gamble Fails to Break the Lockerbie Impasse

Continued from Page 1

In April, unidentified assailants beat Libyan demands that the two suspects, if reach a compromise with a dictatorial convicted, not be imprisoned in Scot-leader. land. Libya also wants more assurances that UN sanctions, imposed for its fail-

> Mr. Annan flew to Sitte at some political risk, saying he wanted to try to break the deadlock in the case by getting Mr. Gadhafi's agreement to stop delaying the transfer of the two suspects to the

Mr. Annan detoured from a trip between Tunisia and a meeting of Gulf were not honored. leaders in Abu Dhabi to go to Libya, despite the skepticism of diplomats and UN officials. His trip to Libya was premised on talks with Mr. Gadhafi, although there was no assurance in advance that the Libyan leader would show

years as secretary-general that Mr. Annan has taken political risks to try to

He agreed two years ago to reconstitute an investigation team looking into allegations of massacres in the Democratic Republic of the Congo when the new president, Laurent Kabila, whose troops were accused of the killings, refused to work with the group set up by the UN Human Rights Commission.

In Pebruary, he went to Baghdad to persuade President Saddam Hussein to resume cooperation with arms inspec-In both cases agreements he obtained

There were no details immediately available on his talks with Mr. Gadhafi, whom he appears to have met in a lavish desert tent, an encounter that a television crew was permitted to film. Expectations for the meeting were never high, but the United Nations had a plane waiting in

It is still possible that this could hap-pen, since Libya's Parliament has been summoned into a rare session Tuesday.

Pan Am Flight 103 was blown up over the town of Lockerbie on Dec. 21, 1988, killing 270 people, including 11 on the ground. An investigation by British and American law enforcement and intelligence agencies concluded that two Libyan agents had planted an explosive disguised in a radio-cassette player on

The Libyans are also accused of plotting the bombing that destroyed a French jet over Niger in 1989, killing 171

people. That case is also unresolved. Mr. Gadhafi is eager to see the end of sanctions, imposed on Libya in 1992 and toughened in 1993. These sanctions have barred international air travel to and from Libya as well as the sale of the oil industry on which the Libyan economy depends. Libyan assets have been frozen abroad and diplomatic representation has been limited.

ISRAEL: Soul-Searching After a Beating

Continued from Page 1

Israel. To some, his failure to act, to defend himself by firing his weapon, assuming he could, is a humiliating symbol of the state's failure of nerve in the face of Arab effrontery.

"What in God's name is happening to us?" asked Yaacov Erez, a commentator in the daily newspaper Ma'ariv. "Have we turned into a wimp state?" To some, Corporal Myara is a pitiable

victim of the country's inability to deal effectively with the Palestinian situation. "The country, this government in par-ticular, is sending soldiers to handle im-possible situations — whether it's Lebanon where the purpose of the mission is not clear," or the West Bank," said Yaron Ezrahi, an Israeli political phi-

On the facts, at least, there is somewhat less disagreement. Corporal Myara, assigned to an intelligence unit in the Jewish West Bank settlement of Beit El, was on his way home to Jerusalem a little after midday Wednesday. Corporal Myara, who was riding in the passenger seat, and the driver approached a traffic circle in an Israeli-controlled zone near the West Bank city of Ramaliah. There they encountered a group of Arabs
demonstrating against Israel's refusal to
release more of those whom the Pal"People who haven't experienced

estinians consider political prisoners.

The car slowed. Several dozen demonstrators closed in around it, hurling stones and methodically shattering all of the car's windows. After a rock crashed through the windshield, the driver, Yehada Oleva, stumbled out holding his bleeding head and ran for cover. The car rolled slowly into the curb as Corporal Myara, hunched over in the passenger seat, folded his arms over his head against the barrage of rocks.

mob dragged him from it, made off with his M-16 assault rifle and stomped him on the ground as the television cameras arms and spare parts for aviation and for rolled. After 30 seconds or so, Corporal a plastic bag, as minced meat. Myara made it to his feet and ran.

> Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who watched the videotape with some of she said. "He did the only just and his ministers, suspended all further Israeli sensible thing. who watched the videotape with some of

troop withdrawals from the West Bank and demanded an end to the violence. Senior Israeli Army officers and

hawkish politicians issued scathing as-sessments of Corporal Myara's performance, suggesting that he had been trained for combat and issued an M-16 to defend himself. "He should have opened fire," Brigadier General Yaakov Zigdon, deputy

chief of the army central command, was

quoted as saying. "In a situation like that you shoot to kill." Using information supplied by the army, some Israeli news organizations then took up the attack, suggesting that Corporal Myara, a draftee who has been transferred at least twice in his year in the army, was a problem soldier. It was further reported that Corporal Myara, having been confined to his base for a week on a disciplinary infraction, had gone absent

without leave at the time of the attack. Worst of all, in the view of army officers and fellow soldiers, was that Corporal Myara allowed his M-16 to be taken and, according to some reports, was traveling in the West Bank without an ammunition clip in the weapon, in violation of regulations. Now there is talk of a court-martial

"People who haven't experienced

anything of this kind don't have a right to speak," said President Ezer Weizman. Among the most outraged is the solcher's mother, Lisa Weinmann-Myara, 41. Disabled by a dozen operations on her spine, she hobbles around her apartment with the help of a crutch. Her poor health, not any performance problem on the part of her son, was the reason for Corporal Myara's several transfers, she said. His disciplinary infraction was for nothing more serious than failing to shave, she When the car bumped to a halt, the said. As for those who suggest that her son could have defended himself, she is withering. Even if he could have opened fire, she said, "he would've ended up in

> 'A bigger mob would have gathered and there would've been a massacre,

Anti-Monopolists: A Bunch of Luddites

By William Safire

NEW YORK — The lead attorney for Microsoft, the firm accused by the U.S. government of seeking to monopolize the computer industry, strode into a Washington courtroom and told the judge that the proceedings had turned into "a return of the Lud-

Bill Gates's lawyer, John Warden, explained to listeners unversed in English history that the Luddites were a band of workers who smashed machines "to arrest the march of progress

driven by science and technology." "Song for the first stanza: interrupted to say. "If you're going to "As the L." cite precedent, get specific."
In Leicestershire in 1779, a man

named Ned Ludd broke into a house, and in what was reported to be "a fit of insane rage, '' destroyed two machines used for knitting hosiery.

The breaking of such knitting frames

 machinery invented two centuries before — had been going on for nearly a century. Ludd. however, did it with such gusto and flair that subsequently, whenever machines of any sort were found smashed, the excuse was given that "King Ludd must have been

What was Ludd's motive? Was he a lover of hand-knitted hosiery? Did he prefer going barefoot? Or was he making some sort of undarned social protest of deeper significance?

Revisionist historians say that Ludd and other frame-wreckers were protesting poor working conditions and low wages at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution

The meaning of Luddite became fixed as 'radical opponent of technological or scientific progress.'

However, between 1811 and 1816, organized bands of masked men swore allegiance to "King Ludd" rather than the British sovereign, and waged a war against the serflike conditions spawned by the users of textile ma-

"If the workmen dislike certain machines," explained The Nottingham Frankenstein's monster would be Review in 1811, "it was because of the proud. use to which they were being put, not because they were machines or be-

cause they were new.' That living-condition claim was evidence," charges the majority staff

Luddite on protesters not for demanding a living wage but for obstructing the march of technological progress. The historical revisionists argue that others attributed the anti-machinery cause" to the Luddites.

poets Blake, Byron, Shelley and Wordsworth picked up that anti-technology theme, but identified with its

In the "dark Satanic mills" of industry, they saw the human spirit being stifled. Byron wrote an inflammatory "Song for the Luddites" in 1816. Its meaning is

"As the Liberty lads o'er the sea Bought their freedom, and cheaply. with blood. So we, boys, we

Will die fighting, or live free, And down with all kings but King Luddl'

Mary Shelley, daughter of the fem-inist Mary Wollstonecraft and wife of the poet, gave the Luddite theme dramatic power in her 1818 novel, "Frankenstein." The danger of but I am your master.'

Between the sweatshop operators and the romantic poets, the meaning of Luddite became fixed as "radical opchon wrote in The New York Times in 1984, "The word Luddite continues to of high treason." be applied with contempt to anyone with doubts about technology, especially the nuclear kind."

But he foresaw the day when "artificial intelligence, molecular biology and robotics all converge" and found what Microsoft lawyers claim to be government barbarians at their Gates as "certainly something for all good Luddites to look forward to, if, God willing, we should live so long.

Information about today's neo-Luddism, from Netties who describe themselves soothingly as "people who tend not to overutilize technology," can be found on the Internet at www.nmc.edu/ ~kovacsj/luddit~l.htm. (That's two tildes, the symbol that looks like an arched eyebrow.)

From breaking knitting frames at the start of the Industrial Age to breaking into mainframes and PCs in the Information Age — you just can't keep old Ned Ludd down. Lord Byron and

"There is substantial and credible

swept aside by commercial interests of the House Judiciary Committee, and officialdom, which hung the label "that the president may have engaged "that the president may have engaged in misprision of Monica Lewinsky's felonies....

Minority counsel fired back that "allegations of lying under oath, obstruction and tampering — or even as counsel renames them as misprision of Intellectuals and romantics like the a crime" did not rise to historical impeachment precedents.

Where is this misprision, and how is it pronounced?

Today, the legal still spelled out in a treason statute.

The word has nothing to do with prison, though it can send you there. The last syllable begins with the same sound that begins the name Zsa Zsa

The root meaning is "mistake"; misprision comes from the French rampant technology is expressed by the mesprendre, with prendre meaning monster, who says to Dr. Victor "to take." It was Shakespeare's Frankenstein, "You are my creator, meaning in "Love's Labor Lost": 'sweet misprision!''

A more sour sense was already in use, that of "concealment." In 1533, Henry VIII beheaded Sir Thomas More ponent of technological or scientific for refusing to acknowledge an an-progress." The novelist Thomas Pyn-chon wrote in The New York Times in Aragon, calling his crime "misprision

Today, the legal meaning is still spelled out in a treason statute. Title 18 of the U.S. Criminal Code: 'Whoever, owing allegiance to the

United States and having knowledge of any treason against them, conceals and does not, as soon as may be, disclose and make known the same to the president [or other legal authority]
... is guilty of misprision of treason and faces a jail term of up to seven

Setting treason aside, and ignoring its application to all outdated sedition, misprision means "neglect of duty" all citizens, especially government officials, are duty bound to report knowledge of serious crimes.

The noun was thrust into the nation's vocabulary in 1974 during the Nixon impeachment hearings. The White House attorney Leonard Garment, drawing on his familiarity with a 1649 poem by Richard Lovelace ("Stone walls do not a prison make/Nor iron bars a cage"), offered this amelioration to those accusing the president of obstructing justice: "Stonewalling does not misprision make."

New York Times Service

What Killed the Neanderthals?

By John Noble Wilford
New York Times Service

EW YORK -- In a study already draw-ing the fire of controversy, an American geographer has found evidence suggesting, in his view, that little more than the amount of iodine in their diets may have been responsible for the physical differences between Neanderthals and modern humans and that this might solve the mystery of what happened to the Neanderthals.

According to this interpretation, the skeletons of Neanderthals bear signs of physical deformities and possibly impaired mental health, which could be a result of iodine-deficient diets.

This condition may explain why they were so rapidly and completely replaced by modern humans in Europe about 30,000 years ago. It may even mean that Neanderthals could actually have been anatomically modern humans who were pathologically altered by iodine-deficiency dis-

eases, like cretinism. Perhaps the Neanderthals did not so much disappear as change their diets some time before 30,000 years ago to include more iodine-rich foods. In that case, this could explain why certain Neanderthal physical traits -- heavy brows, thick bones and musculature and propensities for degenerative joint diseases. which are also associated with iodine-deficiency diseases --- did not persist even if their genes continued into later European populations.

These are the provocative ideas of Jerome Dobson, a geographer at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, who crossed into the territory of paleontology and the minefield of Neanderthal studies while examining geographic questions about differences between coastal and inland populations.

His analysis is being published this month in Geogra-phical Review, the journal of the American Geographical Paleontologists who spe-

cialize in Neanderthal research

Was the Neanderthal the victim of iodine deficiency? have raised sharp objections. iodine to table salt has all but eliminated goiter and cretin-ism in developed countries, the World Health Organiza-Mr. Dobson's conclusions. they contend, are a stretch based on highly circumstantial evidence and at odds with tion estimates that 750 million people suffer from goiter and that 5.7 million are cretims. evolutionary biology. But some anthropologists and other geographers said that the About 30 percent of the data seemed impressive and world's population is at risk of that the interpretations should iodine-deficiency diseases, esbe taken seriously. pecially people who live away Karl Butzer, a geographer at the University of Texas, said, "Even if this just generates papers that argue against the idea, it will have from the principal sources of dietary iodine like saltwater

T occurred to Mr. Dobson that Neanderthals served a purpose, making the fossil people think and remainly lived in such iodthink their positions." ine-deprived areas in in-For want of the chemical terior Europe during the ice ages. So he examined some of element iodine, a modern human typically suffers from the 300 Neanderthal skeletons goiter, an enlargement of the in museum collections and thyroid gland that disfigures comparing them with medical the neck, or from cretinism, descriptions of cretinism and with 17 cretin skeletons at an even worse condition of physical deformity and mencollections in Basel, Switzerland, and Philadelphia tal retardation. Cretinism is

In both the skeletal examinations and the medical literature, Mr. Dobson was struck by the conspicuous similarities. Many of the cret-Although the addition of ins had bulging brow ridges to their diets.

fish, shellfish and seaweed.

Neanderthals. They also seemed to suffer many of the degenerative joint diseases of the law, spinal column and hip that afflicted Neanderthals.

The research revealed too many similarities to be coincidental, he said, and the "key factor in controlling Neanderthal morphology appears to be iodine. This suggested to him that perhans the critical difference between Neanderthals and modem humans was a single genetic alteration that improved the ability of the modern buman thyroid gland to extract and use iodine.

This would have given the modern humans who arrived in Europe 40,000 years ago. and are known to science as the Cro-Magnons, a clear advantage over Neanderthals in a low-iodine environment.

As for the fase of the Neanderthals, Mr. Dobson said his analysis could support either of two opposing theories: replacement or continuity.

The prevailing replacement theory holds that all Neanderthals died out and were replaced by modern Hemo sapiens, though it has always been puzzling that these hunters who had sur-vived across Europe and western Asia for sore 200,000 years should lose of to modern humans, the Cro-Magnons, in the relatively brief time of 10,000 years.

In his conclusions, Mr. Dobson wrote, "Iodine deficiency among Neanderthals may explain why they were so easily replaced by Cro

Magnons. The continuity theory po its that some interpreeding occurred between Neanderthals and modern Homo sapiens, meaning that some Neanderthal genes survive in Europeans.

oropeans.

Mr. Dobson argued that in genetic terms, Neanderthals may have been anatomically modern humans who were pathologically altered by the effects of iodine deficiency. Through growing trade and other contacts with coastal people, the Neanderthals could have added more ioding-

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BOOKS

caused either by dietary iod-

ine deficiency or by malfunc-

tion or absence of the thyroid

gland, which processes iodine

into the thyroid hormone.

THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND

By Giles Foden. 335 pages. \$25. Alfred A. Knopf.

Reviewed by Michiko Kakutani

NICHOLAS GARRIGAN, the willfully oblivious hero of Giles Foden's first novel, is a nightmare version of Forrest Gump transplanted to Uganda: He is a witness to many of the bloody atrocities committed during the 1970s rule of President Idi Amin, the

confident of both Amin and the British consul, a witness to the Entebbe hijacking and hostage rescue and an unwitting accomplice in the bombing of a plane.
"The Last King of Scotland" (which was published to considerable acclaim in Britain this year) is an uncomfortable

in Britain this year) is an uncomfortable amalgam of black comedy and historical tragedy — the sort of thing you'd get if you took Evelyn Waugh's "Black Mischief" and William Boyd's "Good Man in Africa" and set them against the backdrop of a real-life mass killing.

The result is a highly readable but troubling novel that inadvertently trivializes the plight of the estimated 500,000 people who died in Uganda during Amin's eight-year reign of terror.

The fictional Garrigan, we learn, is a Scottish physician, posted by the British Ministry of Health to work in a clinic in a remote Ugandan village. Through a

by journalists as a larger-than-life figthat he has been corrupted by Amin, that
ure, capable of exuding childlike geniality one minute, irrational rage the
suppurating beast, someone with a smell
next, and the portrait of the ruler that
of evil about his person." Foden, a staff writer for The Guardian, draws in this novel clearly owes a debt to

Foden's Amin is a monster of egotism, declaring himself "the savior of Africa" and the "most powerful figure in the world." He boasts of camibalism. He absurdly maintains, "Anything that is done in my name, it is the right thing. Any bad thing done, it is by those who are disobeying me." And when asked about atrocities committed by his soldiers, he replies, "There have been a few mistakes."

His private feelings of guilt have also given way to the conviction that he has put Amin's world "with all its blood and crazed illusious" behind him.

through the star-struck eyes of Garrigan, however, the comic, rather than monstrous, aspects of his personality tend to be italicized. This Amin drives a red Maserati and swans about Uganda, dressed in ridiculous costumes: full Highland dress, complete with kilt, spats and brogans; or an electric-blue safari suit with a matching sombrero.

Foden's Amin captivates Garrigan, who soon admits to feeling "a sneaking sense of affection towards him." Garrigan accepts a used van from his new boss, using it to drive around Kampala to

The real-life Amin has been described British passport revoked. He realizes

Garrigan's story is presumably meant to make the point that one cannot be an innocent bystander when appalling crimes are being committed, that bystanders who ratify such acts by refusing to dissent are morally contam-inated themselves. By the end of the book, Garrigan is saying, "I merely did my job," echoing those Germans who aided Hitler by shutting their eyes to ha

and crazed illusions" behind him. In the end, the reader remains mystified by Garrigan's bizarre affection for Amin in the face of so many horrors: Hs rgestion that his own Scottish heritage made him susceptible to Amin's claims to be the "last King of the Scots" remains absurd, as is his suggestion that Amin's charisma is nearly impossible to resist.

Worse, the comic tone of much of this novel overshadows the reality of the horrors actually committed in the Uganda of Idi Amin. Although Foden does a vivid job of describing the decapitated bodies, the mutilated corpses, the unreceivable crimes committed by

chance encounter, he becomes Amin's personal physician, a job that will make him privy to many of the heinous acts committed during the dictator's reign.

As the narrator, Garrigan initially comes across as a bumbling but likable twit: a self-absorbed fellow looking for women and a good time. Still, be readily admits that he has a "closed-in, oblivious temperament," and he soon falls under the spell of Idi Amin, whom he likens to "a being out of Greek myth."

Last sand clubs. And when his affair with the British ambassador's wife fails to ignite, he finds comfort in Amin's hencimen, such scenes altertially become a suspenseful backetop for Garrigan's bumbling adveatures.

Despite knowing that the dictator says of Amin's amics: "It would be divided the man, in the same missing in me that actually become a suspenseful backetop for Garrigan's bumbling adveatures.

Midway through "The Last King of Scotland," one of Foden's characters and of Poden's Characters says of Amin's antics: "It would be dutie funny if it weren't for the thed sands of people who are dying. All titize sally larks of his, it's like pomography. If you laugh at it, you're stepping over the corpses." The same missing this of the unspeakable crimes committed by Amin's hencimen, such scenes altertially become a suspenseful backetop for Garrigan's bumbling adveatures.

Midway through "The Last King of Scotland," one of Foden's characters says of Amin's antics: "It would be used the unspeakable crimes committed by Amin's hencimen, such scenes altertially become a suspenseful backetop for Garrigan's bumbling adveatures.

Midway through "The Last King of Scotland," one of Foden's characters says of Amin's antics: "It would be used the unspeakable crimes committed by Amin's hencimen, such scenes districted by Amin's hencimen, such scenes dist

BRIDGE

by Lew and Juran.

of Castro Valley, California,
who were having their first
big win as a partnership.

The final standings were:
first, the Stansbys, 2652.16
match points; second, Richbus, Ohio, 1203.01.

Lew Stansby, who owns a

least collection of world and York, and Ron Smith of large collection of world and San Francisco. 2572.18; national titles, sat West on the

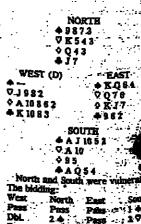
A New Jersey partnership had good reason to double. had led the spade jack instead of the five at the sixth trick he Most the Life Master Women's Pair title by a wide margin. The standings were first, but it happened at the start of the American Contract Bridge League's Fall Nation—Bridge League's Fall Nation—Brid Pairs was won convincingly and Shannon Lipscomb of by Lew and JoAnna Stansby Red Bank, Tennessee, of Castro Valley, California, 1279.02; third, Mildred

San Francisco, 2572.18; national titles, sat West on the thump, and JoAnna Stansby third, Dan Morse of Houston and Adam Wildavsky of originally and made a take-out double when South Carruthers of Toronto and Larry Mori of Clearwater, Flordia.

The result was down two, for 500 points and a top score, and she was en route to her first major open title 1882. to reach four spades, and East first major open title. If South

led. East covered with the queen; and after taking the ace, South unwisely cashed the heart ace. The spade five was led to the eight, another error, and East took the king and led the heart queen. When South ruffed and led a club.

West grabbed the king and led This forced South's last trump, and JoAnna Stansby



HEALTH/SCIENCE



Mony de Leon, research director at the Silberstein Aging and Dementia Research Laboratory, with an MRI.

Premonitions of Alzheimer's

By Marion Roach New York Times Service

graph partings of $z_{i} \in \{i, \ldots, j \in \mathcal{T}_i : a_i\}$

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election of the second

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 $|\mathcal{A}_{ij}| = e^{-i \pi i - \frac{2\pi i \pi}{2}}$

1. 20 -

 $r_{\rm eff} = 6 r_{\rm eff} + 6 r_{\rm eff}$

EW YORK - Twenty years ago, my mother's mind went disease and lost. Last month scientists at New York University and when it starts. Medical Center, in a hunt for clues to the blight of her brain, spent three days looking at mine.

effect of this illness in my family that I parts of the brain that are the gateway to was willing to undergo this investiall memory. What we didn't know is gation. Family members of patients those changes can be seen at 30. And we think of ourselves as survivors. We never realized, until now, that we could saw the disease rage through our lives identify who is going to get memory and turn children into parents, kill change years before they do." spouses from exhaustion and financially devastate us along the way.

others. In our brains may be a key to Every four years would be the threeunderstanding the illness of our par-ents. But because of my mother, I resonance image. So this, like my first understanding the illness of our pardreaded a diagnosis: What if they found in my brain

ry have spent 20 years studying the spectrum of

Alzheimer's disease. while I was at the lab with a friend who entorhinal cortex - which he de- resemble computer games, then oral was concerned about his own memory scribes as "a memory processing cen-loss, that Mony de Leon, the lab's ter of the brain that funnels information standing of idiom and literal comresearch director and an acquaintance, to the hippocampus" - where the first

said he wanted to give me some tests. Even now, the moment appears like an image in a zoom lens — a minute before I was not really there, safely detached from being back in the place I had brought my mother and attended years of family support groups. Safely distanced from the present, as

well, I walked past the freezers that limn the hallways, wondering which that my dear friend might have what recall the three words. I did. my mother had (he does not). But then I was sweating and stammering something to Dr. de Leon about being busy,

plained, requires psychiatric, neuropsychological and memory testing, as well as thorough neurological and physical examinations and an MRI of the brain. "I want to study children of then asked to recall the pairings, I early-onset patients, in particular," Dr.

Alzheimer's disease patients in the motor control. At the beginning of the United States alone. It is well known second day, 14 small tubes of blood what the brain of a patient looks like at were drawn from my arm. The glucose death. Equally well documented are metabolism mechanism is disturbed in the losses of abilities that occur in a Alzheimer's disease and so my glucose to battle with Alzheimer's predictable way. What is not known is will be checked. Among the blood tests the mechanism that triggers the illness

Aledical Center, in a hunt for clues to he dical center, in a hunt for clues to blight of her brain, spent three days ooking at mine.

It is because I survived the enormous in their shares the next that are the next to the large that are the next to the next to the large that are the next to th

He explained that I would be tracked for the rest of my life. Every two years But to science, we are also potential I would return to NYU for a psychiatric victims, statistically more at risk than evaluation and a physical follow-up.

nances - I remembered my mother's the premonitions of what I want to study children of early-Researchers at NYU's onset patients, in particular, but I Silberstein Aging and Dementia Research Laborato really want to look at everybody.

parts of the brain associated with And so it was that this summer, memory. These days his focus is on the lesions of Alzheimer's disease appear.

The tests, the standard for an Alzheimer's work-up at NYU, would take three days, which I chose to do consecutively. The first day started with a psychiatric workup, which took about 30 minutes. It can take Alzheimer's patients nearly two hours. I was asked to remember three words - apple, book, chair - and to name childhood friends one held her autopsied brain. I was also and teachers from grammar school. At detached because of the enormous fear the end of the interview, I was asked to

I filled out an autopsy consent form I snapped into focusing on the fact that and got a laminated wallet-sized card that reads "At the Time of Death" in boldface and gives instructions to call the funeral home affiliated with the being a mother, living upstate.

A work-up at the NYU lab, he exstudied after death.

On to the Red Screen memory test. I defined 40 words accurately. But when I was told 10 pairs of unrelated words, Leon said, "but I really want to have recall only 4. I did finger-tapping exercises for speed and accuracy. Cog-There are more than four million nitively impaired people have poor two years." A Tool to Fight Cancer? Sifting Myth From Sound Advice on Diet

By Jane E. Brody New York Times Service

with a current best-seller, "The Breast the analysis suggests.

Cancer Prevention Diet" by Bob Arnot,

Perhaps most imp the medical correspondent for NBC.

The book's premise - that adopting a diet rich in soy, flaxseed and fish oils can prevent breast cancer - has been soundly denounced by breast-cancer researchers and patient advocates alike as promising something it cannot possibly

As Fran Visco, president of the National Breast Cancer Coalition, put it: assertion is too flimsy to warrant a rad- occur naturally in plant foods. ical dietary shift based on a "bet," as he put it, that it will deliver the goods.

Faced with an onslaught of criticism, Mr. Arnot now says he should have used 'prevention' in his book title.

oratory findings that have yet to be confirmed in women suggests dietary the likelihood of changes that have not been tested for long-term safety, and infimates that, developing most counter to all rules of sound medical science, it is foolbardy to wait for definitive proof of effectiveness and safety.

Mr. Arnot is not wrong in suggesting that diet plays an important role in the prevention of cancer, including breast cancer. The American Cancer Society estimates that diet is a primary factor in a third of cancer deaths. That estimate is derived from thousands of studies of people worldwide and is supported by findings in laboratory cell cultures and

experimental animals.

These studies suggest that a reorientation of eating habits—to emphasize fruits, vegetables and whole grains and minimize red meats, total fat and especially saturated fats and alcohol—can significantly reduce the likelihood of developing most of the common cancers. like colon and rectum, hung, bladder, stomach, esophagus, mouth, throat

What cannot be said is that adopting a particular diet can ensure that you won't get cancer, or that if you do, the diet will prevent the cancer from recurring.

Last year the American Institute for studies. Cancer Research and the World Cancer

the relationship between cancer and diet EW YORK — When words and exercise. The conclusion, as summike "cure" and "preven marized in the current issue of Nutrition book about a chronic, dis-abling or life-threatening disease, they often enrich authors and publishers at the public's expense. Such is likely the case eliminate about 20 percent of cancers,

اعتكذامن الأعوار

Perhaps most important is that the recommended anti-cancer diet is the very same diet that studies have shown can help to prevent and treat heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes and

obesity.
In other words, anyone who is interested in maximizing the chances of staying healthy would be wise to consider adopting a diet rich in whole grains, fruits and vegetables that are "There is no breast-cancer prevention loaded with fiber, vitamins and minerals liet," and the basis for Mr. Arnot's and other cancer-fighting chemicals that

A reorientation of the words "risk reduction" instead of eating habits, studies prevention" in his book title.
Critics say the book overextends labindicate, can reduce common cancers.

> A protective diet would also be moderate in animal protein and especially limited in red meats and low in fat, especially saturated fat, simple sugars and alcohol.

In contrast to the low-carbohydrate plan advocated by Mr. Arnot, such a diet is rich in carbohydrates -- not sugars, of course, but the complex carbohydrates, or starchy foods, particularly in their natural, unrefined, fiber-rich state. This is also a diet that can help fight obesity, which is strongly linked to an increased risk of breast, uterine and other can-

The cancers most directly linked to diet are those that arise in lining tissues throughout the body, especially cancers of the colon and rectum, lung, bladder, stomach and, to a lesser extent, the breast, uterus and prostate. The following dietary suggestions are based on the strongest associations established in

Fruits and Vegetables: Evidence in

Research Fund released an analysis of people has accumulated rapidly in recent more than 4,500 studies that examined years to support the protective role of years to support the protective role of plant foods against most cancers. The average American eats only about three or four servings a day of vegetables and tion" appear in the title of a Action Health Letter: "While there are fruits, while five servings, and prefer-

Especially helpful are yellow, darkgreen and orange vegetables rich in carotenoids, fruits like citrus, tomatoes and strawberries that are rich in vitamin C. and all the cabbage-family vegetables like broccoli, brussels sprouts, cauli-flower, collards, kale, bok choy and

mustard and turnip greens.
Such foods are linked to lower risks of lung, stomach, colon and rectum, oralcavity, esophagus and, to a lesser degree, breast, bladder, pancreas and larynx can-

Garlic, onions and leeks contain allium compounds that help prevent cancer, especially breast cancer. To reduce loss of the protective chemicals, these vegetables should be out up and allowed to stand for 10 minutes before they are

Other recent findings suggest that the risk of prostate cancer can be reduced by eating lots of cooked tomato products, including ketchup, that are rich in a carotenoid called lycopene, and foods rich in the mineral selenium, like meats, fish, grains and seeds.

Soy and Other Dried Beans: These contain plant estrogens that may be beneficial in preventing hormone-related cancers, including breast, uterine and possibly ovarian cancer. A soy-rich diet may in part explain why Asian women have a low risk of these cancers. Dried beans may also help prevent colon cancer. But experts say that beans are most likely to be protective when used in place of meats and when the rest of the

diet is low in fat. Whole Grains: Wheat bran in wholegrain cereals and breads is strongly linked to protection against colon and rectal cancers, probably because they speed the passage of wastes and reduce exposure of the lower gut to cancercausing substances

Other Helpful Foods: The list of possible dietary cancer weapons keeps growing. Among recent additions are green tea, olive oil (linked to a lower risk of breast cancer when used in place of other fats) and milk and other foods rich in calcium and Vitamin D (linked to a reduced risk of breast and colon cancer). Though the evidence that flaxseed and fish oils can protect against breast or any other cancer is still highly preliminary, many benefits are associated with fish.

speak five or six words, then one word, then even sit up, smile and hold up their heads. During this reversal, aging, from normal live brains and mammogram, was to be a baseline. reflex rehealthy behavior through dementia and "I can now tell you the age of a sucking. reflex responses return - such as on to autopsy. The lab's clinical di- living brain by looking at an MRI as I suddenly remembered that early in rector, Barry Reisberg, developed the easily as I can tell your age from your her illness, my mother made sucking scales used worldwide to measure the face," Dr. de Leon said. He does so by ordinal losses of abilities in measuring the MRI images of those touched. Now I knew why. Next came a thorough physical ex-am, then, in the computer lab, tests that

mands. I left the lab at 4:30 p.m. It had been a long day.

The third and final day began with Marnie, the tester who had seen me fail so miserably on the first day with word-pair association and paragraph recall. By computer and then verbally, my recognition and memory were ganged. Marnie read me a list of 10 grocery items. I remembered 6. She read them again. I got 8. Then all 10. More computer testing. Then the gro-cery items again. Got 8. Studied the list. Got 10. Could I alphabetize them in my head? I could. On the first try.

Finally came the MRL That image, compared with my test results, will give us a complete picture of who I am. The researchers will know what my brain looked like at this age and how my memory exhibited itself.

will also be a screening for the ApoE,

or apolipo protein, to see which type I carry. Type four is now considered a susceptibility factor for the disease, although not either causative or pre-

The neurological exam tested more

than 200 items, including language, left-right orientation, sensory perception, gait, posture and reflexes. The

neurologist was stroking my top hip with a plastic picnic knife. I asked him

what he was looking for. "The sucking reflex," he said. Alzheimer's disease,

he explained, is the reverse of normal

It begins with the loss of the ability

inability to make change-

and the regression contin-

ues, as patients lose the

ability to dress, to control bowels and bladders, to

to hold a job and handle simple fi-

human development.

The question is how I progress. I called Dr. de Leon a week later. "Oh, I'm just sitting here looking at your brain." he said Silence. "Ah, Doc," I said, "how

does it look?" "Looks great," he said. "See you in

Cindy Crawford's Choice



Oneye-my choice Cing Cungal



The sign of excellence

IN BRIEF

Ultrasound Exams for Breast Cancer

CHICAGO (Renters) - Ultrasound exams can detect breast cancers that are missed by mammograms, which some. Austro-Italian border in 1991, researchers have contended that mes camouflage images of small tumors amid dense breast sue, according to a study released on Monday.

In a mammogram, an X-ray of the breast, the glandular tissue found in dense breasts shows up as white, which can hide a small white dot that might be a cancerous tumor, said Thomas Kolb, a radiologist in New York.

Ultrasound, which uses high-frequency sound waves to produce an image, depicts cancerous spots as black against the two walnut-sized objects tied to a leather thong that were white background of the surrounding tissue. In a presentation found with his body were the fruit of Piptoporus bentlinus, a white background of the surrounding used. Society of North fungus that has antibiotic properties.

To the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North fungus that has antibiotic properties.

"The discovery of the fungus suggests that the Ice Man was America, Dr. Kolb recommended adding an ultrasound exam to the current standard of care, which consists of a mam-

mogram followed by a physical examination by a doctor. In a study of more than 18,000 women treated over a three. year period at his office, 40 percent, or 7,200 women, were found to have dense breasts. Younger women and menopansal women on hormone replacement therapy are more likely to have dense breast tissue, which is predominantly glandular and can produce false manunography readings.

In a separate study conducted at Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle, which was also presented at the radiological geting, researchers used ultrasound exams to back up inhelusive mammograms for 220 women.

The ultrasound exams were used to search for calcifications and correctly identified 20 of the 24 growths that biopsies later showed were malignant.

Did 'Ice Man' Use Natural 'Cures'?

LONDON (Reuters) - Oetzi the Ice Man, the 5,300-yearold corpse found perfectly preserved in a Tirolean glacier the largest planet orbiting the sun.

seven years ago, probably used natural laxatives and antibiotics, an Italian doctor says.

Since Oetzi's tattooed corpse was discovered near the he suffered from arthritis, that he most likely died of exhaustion and that he had intestinal worms that could have caused diarrhea and stomach pain. Luigi Capasso, an an-thropologist at the National Archeological Museum in Chieti, Italy, said Octzi probably knew about his worm problem and had a remedy close at hand when he died.

In a letter to The Lancet medical journal, Mr. Capasso said

aware of his intestinal parasites and fought them with measured doses of Piptoporus betulinus," Mr. Capasso said. He propounded that the toxic oils in the fungus were probably the only remedy for his problem available in Europe at the time.

Clues About a New Planet Emerge

WASHINGTON (Routers) - A massive planet could be orbiting a star outside our solar system, Swiss astronomers based in Chile contend.

The astronomers said they believe the planet is circling one of a pair of stars in the southern constellation Eridanus - the River. Known as Gliese 86, the star is a bit smaller and dimmer than the sun, but because it is so close in cosmic terms -- 35 light years — it can be seen with unaided eyes from Earth.

The planet itself cannot be seen, but the astronomers at the European Southern Observatory's La Silla Observatory in Chile said they thought it exists because Gliese 86 is wobbling in space. They said the planet could be as massive as Jupiter,

INTERNATIONAL

Fears Emerge in Iran of a Campaign Against Reformers

By Douglas Jehl

TEHRAN — An attack on visiting American businessmen and the assassination of a prominent dissident here have caused fresh unease among critics of the government, who say they fear a campaign of violence by conservative

The same concern is being expressed by foreign diplomats, who said they suspect that the attacks—carried out on a single weekend last month — may have been staged with at least the tacit approval of conservative elements in the 20vernment

The assaults have been condemned in strong terms by President Mohammed Khatami, a relative moderate who commands broad popular support. But the conservative figures who still wield

By Norimitsu Onishi

New York Times Service

gistical problems, officials monitoring Nigeria's local government elections described them Sunday as a positive

step toward the presidential vote in Feb-

Results of the elections for 774 mu-

nicipal governments were still being

tallied Sunday, although reports from

across the country suggested that the three leading parties had performed ac-

cording to expectations. Foreign mon-itors estimated the voter turnout at about

20 percent, a figure they described as

good, given the local nature of the con-

tests Saturday and the dismal turnouts

during rigged elections under the late General Sani Abacha.

the impoverished Niger Delta region,

where 10 people were killed in skir-

mishes related to the elections, accord-

first glimpse into how fair the pres-

idential elections might be in a country that has been ruled by military gov-

emments for all but four years since

1966. Several organizations from the

West, as well as local ones, sent ob-

servers throughout this country of 108

The elections Saturday provided the

ing to Nigerian newspapers.

Monitors said there were few reports of violence. A notable exception was in

LAGOS - Despite widespread lo-

attacks may have been part of an internal power struggle.

"This shows that there are powerful forces in Iran who are not going to let their critics go manswered," one Western envoy said. "And this is not a softie

Since Mr. Khatami's election 19 months ago, the conservatives who control the Parliament, the judiciary and the post of supreme leader have battled hard to block his agenda and to silence his allies, even arresting one of his top

supporters.
But the attacks, on the weekend of Nov. 21-22, are being seen by many here as marking a worrying new turn. These events have sent a very great shock through the society," said Abbas Shayegan, a critic of the government

most power in Iran have expressed fewer regrets, adding to the view that the assassinated. Dariush Forouhar. "They assassinated, Dariush Foroubar. "They were well thought out by the government with the intention to oppress."

Among the reasons diplomats and others mentioned as cause for their suspicions of official acquiescence were the fact Iranian security forces were uncooperative in responding to reports of the Nov. 21 attack on the Americans. Their minibus was attacked by men wielding crowbars who had used their cars to block a hotel driveway as the group returned from a trip inside Iran.

None of the 13 Americans in the delegation was hurt, but many bus win-dows were shattered in the attack, which one well-informed diplomat described as "meticulous and precise."

An Iranian police officer ultimately escorted the Americans back to their hotel, but not before the group was left

Polling began slowly in the oil-

mid-afternoon appeared substantially lower than in the turbulent and hotly

Mr. Bongo, 63, voted in the capital,

would win in the first round, citing

said, urging Gabonese to vote calmly.

Mr. Bongo, black Africa's longest-

waiting for more than an hour for a police response.

An Iranian group calling itself the Devotees of Islam has taken responsibility for the attack, saying that it was intended to discourage the renewed private contacts between Iran and the United States advocated by Mr. Khatami.

The assassination of Mr. Forouhar, and his wife, Parvaneh, who were stabbed to death in their Tehran home, has prompted a louder outcry: Mr. Forouhar, who was well-known known for his nationalist and secular views, was prominent among opposition leaders whose activities are officially banned but usually tolerated.

The Foronbar home was said by Mr. Shayegan and other activists to have been under round-the-clock surveillance by the Ministry of Information, the intelligence service. They said that

Gabon Leader, in Office 31 Years, Wants 7 More

went into the vote divided, with three

M'ba Abessole of the Woodcutters,

the runner-up in 1993, who led the

opposition that forced a 1990 return to

multiparty politics after more than two

decades of single-party rule. His

is one of the two other Woodcutter

voting materials or party representa-tives caused delays in many districts

of the capital. State radio reported

The late arrival of election officials,

One of the challengers is Father Paul

candidates in the race.

candidates.

surveillance cameras were known to have been trained on entrances to the home and that it would have been impossible for the assailants to have entered or left without the ministry's knowledge.

■ Journalist Banned for One Year

One of leading liberal journalists in Iran was slapped with a one-year ban on all press activities, his magazine said Sunday, as the country's press finds itself under increasing pressure from hard-line conservatives in the Islamic republic,

Agence France-Presse reported.
The Iranian press court convicted
Ezzatollah Sahabi, a prominent liberal and director of the monthly political and economic review Iran-e-Farda, of publishing "slanderous" material against the armed forces and banned him from writing activities for a year.

Some voters reported problems with their polling documents. Interior Minister Antoine Mboumbou Miyakou said Saturday that most

Voters who turned out early Sun-

day, mindful of election turmoil in

1993, said they wanted to vote before

any rush. Supporters of Father Abessole in the 1993 election disputed

Security forces were deployed

The first results are not expected for

and sea borders were closed and some

a few days.
Oil wealth has given Gabon's 1 mil-

lion people Africa's highest average per-capita income, \$4,230 a year.

shop fronts were barricaded.

that result and rioted.

former deputy, Pierre-Andre Kombila, heavily in the capital Sunday. Land

voters had received polling cards.

Cuba Tries to Calm Feud With Mexico

BRIEFLY

Egypt to Release

CAIRO — The head of the Egyptian Organization for Human Rights was ordered released on bail

by the state security court pros-ecutor Sunday after being jailed on charges of taking foreign funds. After a two-hour hearing, the court prosecutor ordered Hafez

Abu Saada freed upon payment of

"We are expecting that the re-lease procedures will last just a few

hours and that he will be freed from

jail Monday morning," Mr. Abu

The rights campaigner had been

received from the human rights committee of the British Parlia-

detained as part of an investigation into a \$25,000 check his group had

\$150, a judicial official said.

Saada's wife said.

Rights Activist

MEXICO CITY - Cuba moved to quell a diplomatic quarrel with Mexico over the weekend, saying reporters had misinterpreted Fidel Castro when they quoted him as saying Mexicans had traded in their historic heroes for Mickey Mouse.

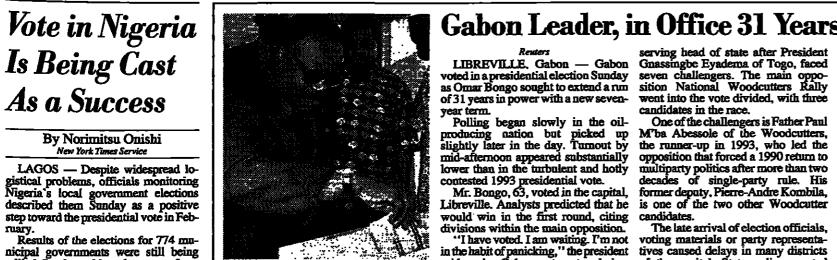
The Mexican Foreign Relations Ministry demanded Priday that Havana explain criticism of Mexico's relationship with the United States, which Mexico City news-papers had attributed to Mr. Cas-

The daily El Universal reported that the Cuban president had said that Mexico was turning its back on poor Latin American nations and that many Mexicans would sooner be able to say who Mickey Mouse was than name the father of their country.

Iraq Aide in Russia

MOSCOW — Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz of Iraq arrived Sunday in Moscow for talks focusing on Iraq's compliance with UN Security Council resolutions in

return for the lifting of sanctions. Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Posuvalyuk told the Interfax news agency Sunday that Russia would reiterate the "need for Baghdad's carrying out the measures detailed in the pertinent resolutions." (AP)



President Bongo voting on Sunday.

ten cast on street corners, under trees, in private homes or simply along roadsides under a scorching midday sun.

"There were some evident problems," said K. Srinivasan, the head of a monitoring team for the Commonwealth, which suspended Nigeria in 1995 after General Abacha ordered the execution of the writer Ken Saro-Wiwa. "But we did see some places that had excellent procedures that could be copied anywhere else," he said. "I'm confident that the problems will be evaluated and resolved in time for the presidential elections."

Clement Nwankwo, chairman of the Transition Monitoring Group, an umbrella organization of 45 Nigerian organizations monitoring the elections, said that he had received consistent remillion to oversee ballots that were of- ports from his group's 600 monitors.

The state of the s

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and the continue of the public.

"There were some problems in that there were shortages of voting material and mix-ups of voter registration lists," Mr. Nwankwo said. "But they were not considered significant enough that the elections could not be considered free

After General Abacha's unexpected death in June, his successor, General Abdulsalami Abubakar, announced that Nigeria would hold local, statewide and presidential elections each month starting in December. General Abubakar, who is not running for president, has pledged that the military will hand over power to a civilian government in May.

He created by decree the Independent National Electoral Commission to run the elections. And amid concerns of fraud — 20 million out of 60 million

Company of the Control of the Contro

voters' cards disappeared, for example - several safeguards were put in place Saturday, including sealing Nigeria's borders during voting hours.

similar problems in other areas.

But foreign monitors said some practices followed in the vote Saturday needed to be corrected for the presidential elections. Many officials presiding at polling stations appeared poorly trained and arrived late, the monitors said. And at many stations it was possible to see how individuals voted, because ballots were cast out in the

"This week's election is not a watershed," said Thomas Melia, vice president of the National Democratic Institute, which also is monitoring the

"It's a time for testing. The signif-icance of the voting will become clear

等 网络拉克斯 医皮肤

when we see what improvements are made in subsequent elections. The Independent National Electoral

Commission said it would release final results this week. But preliminary figures and reports suggested that the People's Democratic Party — a centrist party with the best-known presidential candidate in General Olusegun Obasanjo, a former president and the only military ruler to have given up power to a civilian government — had won the highest number of local seats nation-

Two other parties, the All People's Party and the Alliance for Democracy, were expected to muster enough votes in 24 out of the 36 states to present candidates in statewide and presidential elections. Turnout is expected to rise for

The state of the s



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The Japanese cellular phone market now exceeds 35 million subscribers. To accommodate further expansion, all cellular phone and PHS numbers in Japan will change from 10 to 11 digits at



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MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1998

Banks in Euro Zone Scramble to Give New Currency a Smooth Lift-Off

By John Tagliabue New York Times Service

VERONA, Italy - The bank where Salvatore Bellu works is strongest in Italy's dynamic northern industrial belt, filled with mighty little multina-tionals, like Zanussi and Rex, washing machine makers in Sweden's big Electrolux appliance group. Come January, Electrolux is, shifting its business to Europe's new single currency, the euro, and Zanussi and Rex are under

orders to do likewise. Even though Sweden will be outside the euro zone, Electrolux, by adopting the single currency, expects to reduce costs and avoid having to hedge against currency fluctuations, all of which should pay off in increased compet-

So, if Electrolux wants to pay hills in euros, or transfer funds from one bank to another, Mr. Bellu's bank, Cariverone Banca SpA, will be ready for it to do so. For two years the bank has been throwing money and people at the task of getting ready for the euro, or risk seeing lucrative customers flee to better-prepared competitors.

Cariverona is caught in a rush that is reaching a crucial stage as the date for introducing the new currency, Jan. 4, nears, pitting bankers, software specialists and consultants against the guts

of a banking system that serves 290 mil-COUNTROWN TO THE EURO lion Europeans. If it works, and major banks are rea-

sonably sure it will, Europe will take a further giant stride toward overcoming traditional economic fragmentation by operating under the umbrella of a uniform monetary policy on most of the

Indeed, by cutting short-term interest rates simultaneously on Thursday to a mearly uniform 3 percent, the central banks of the 11 nations that will join the euro essentially opened the

door to the new era. Of the 15 countries in the European Union, three qualify but are staying out for now: Britain, Denmark and Sweden. Greece has not met the requirements. The participants are Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Ger-

many, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain.

For starters, banks in the coro countries will be required by law to keep track of day-by-day operations — de-posits, withdrawals and the like — in euros as well as the local currency, and to make all bank-to-bank transfers in

the new single currency.

Regular reporting to national central banks, which will function under the new European Central Bank somewhat as regional Federal Reserve Banks op-erate in the United States, must be in euros. And since securities markets like the stock exchanges in Paris, Milan and Frankfurt must operate in euros, the banks' brokerage units will have to be equipped for euro-denominated invest-

Thus, brokerage firms, banks and financial-service companies, spurred in many cases by euro-prone customers, are racing to get ready. Most will use the long weekend in early January to fine-tune systems for the start of business on Monday, Jan. 4.

"Sure, there will be some prob-lems," said Mr. Bellu, who has overseen his bank's drive to the euro, with a

sigh of realism. "Monday the 4th will tell us if it works."

Christian Noyer, deputy chairman of the European Central Bank in Frank-furt, said the central banking system appeared ready to go. "All the systems have been tested and retested," he said in a recent interview. "The worst has been imagined, along with the solu-

Euro coins and bills will not be introduced until the end of 2001, but starting in January, the marks and francs and lire in circulation will simply be fixed units of the new euro. the banking system's fundamental

And since much commerce in Europe, as in most modern economies, is conducted without cash, hotels, department stores and most other consumer-oriented businesses are moving to list prices and take payment in both euros and local currencies

American Express will offer creditcard and banking services in euros and local currencies; in January it will start selling euro traveler's checks in 21 countries, including the United States. "Early indications are that large department stores and hotel chains are ready to price in euros and accept payment," said Keith Meyrick, spokesman for the traveler's-check program in London.

For travelers to Europe, the advantage is clear. With 11 European currencies locked together in the euro, euro traveler's checks will be exchangeable for all 11 currencies at a predictable rate, reducing the need to exchange into local currencies along the way and thus the risk of losing

money if the exchange rate shifts. The biggest question for bankers is the extent to which ordinary consumers will switch to euros. Will customers want bank accounts denominated in euros, or request monthly statements in both euros and local currencies? Partly, that will depend on how soon, say, employers begin transferring salaries to employees' bank accounts in euros, or how soon landlords require that rents

If given a choice, many customers do not appear eager to switch, bankers say. Recently, Paribas, the big French financial-services group, surveyed its private clients, and few even bothered

to reply, said Bruno Leresche, who heads the transition to the euro at Paribas. Customers reacted, he said, as they do to a new-model television set. When I see my neighbor get one," he said in describing the common attitude,

Still, banks that want to be competitive are striving to be ready. They are tailoring computers and software to enable monthly statements to be issued in euros, or in a combination of euros and local currencies.

What troubles bankers much more is the euro's impact on their income, a problem not fixable with new soft-

Earnings from foreign exchange, traditionally a lucrative source of profit, will dry up. Italy's banking association predicts that gross profits in the industry will drop an average 37 percent after the euro. Cariverona says it will shed 80

percent of its foreign-exchange trading.

Moreover, the fiscal belt-tightening required to qualify for the euro has led to lower interest rates, narrowing the spread between the relatively low interest banks pay on deposits and what they earn by reinvesting the deposits.

Scottish Power **Holds Talks** On Purchase Of Pacificorp

By Laura M. Holson New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Scottish Power PLC, which has been seeking an electric ntility in the United States, said Sunday that it was in discussions to acquire Pacificorp, a major provider of power in the northwestern United States.

A Scottish Power spokesman said ex-

ecutives from the two companies discussed a possible combination over the weekend, and while those talks could fall part, it was expected that a deal could be

announced as early as Monday. Reacting to newspaper reports of the possible deal, the spokesman told Renters, "ScotPower can confirm that highstill issues.'

If there is a deal, it would be the first purchase of an entire U.S. utility by a

foreign company. The value of the transaction under discussion was not known. But two British newspapers. The Sunday Times and The Sunday Telegraph, first reported last month that Scottish Power was interested in buying Pacificorp for about \$6.6 billion Pacificorp, which is based in Portland, Oregon, has not commented.

Scottish Power, based in Glasgow, supplies electricity to about 5 million fromes in England, Wales and Scotland. It also has operations in telecommunications, water and waste services.

The company has been interested in expanding into the U.S. electricity market, which is opening to competition. It was reported to have discussed possible purchases of Florida Progress Corp. and Cinergy Corp., based in Cincinnati. A takeover of Pacificorp would com-

plete a big reversal for that company, which was viewed this year as a potential buyer of a British utility. It lost a bidding war for Energy Group PLC of Britain to Texas Utilities Co. in August. Since then Pacificorp's stock has

fallen sharply and the company has become the subject of considerable takeover speculation. Its shares finished Friday at \$20.75, up \$1.3125, their st level in nearly three months.

highest level in nearly three mounts.

Rather than try to grow through acquisition, Pacificorp has said it will focus attention on its 1.4 million customers in the Pacific Northwest. Its subsidiaries, Pacific Power & Light and Utah Power & Light, operate in nine Western states. The company also owns an Australian utility, Powercor Ltd.



end But it is not cut and dried. There are Leif Johansson, the president and chief executive officer of Volvo AB, behind the wheel of one of his cars.

Volvo Is in the Market for a Partner

By Warren Brown ashington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Volvo AB, the world's smallest independent car company, which is renowned for making some of the world's safest cars, is looking for a partner.

But the automaker insists that its global search is not, at the moment, a

quest for merger.

"One should never say 'never,'"
said Leif Johansson, president and chief
executive officer. "There are a number of discussions going on in the auto in-dustry and, of course, we would take seriously any offer - or any suggestion that's being made to us."

He said Volvo would prefer to look for a partner - or group of partners to work on joint-venture projects in-

volving new cars, trucks and engines. Volvo annually sells about 350,000 cars worldwide, about one-third of them in the United States, mostly on the East Coast. The company employs 79,640 people worldwide.

Volvo has been consistently profitable, though global economic turnoil is

outing some pressure on earnings.

The company has responded, in part, by announcing it would lay off more than 7 percent of its work force, or 5,300 workers, by the middle of next year. The cuts are part of a plan to lower costs by \$367 million a year as it braces for increased competition in the developed

world and expansion into emerging

Volvo is seeking "working-together alliances" with other carmakers to produce specific products in different geographic markets in the future, Mr. Johansson said, adding that that is what the company must do to survive in the rapidly consolidating global auto industry.

For example, according to Mr. Jo-hansson and other Volvo officials, the company is talking with Mitsubishi Motors Manufacturing Inc. about the possibility of jointly producing small cars in the United States at a Mitsubishi plant in Normal, Illinois. Volvo and Mitsubishi Motors Corp., the Japanese parent, already work together to produce

small cars in the Netherlands. Also in the United States, Volvo has been in negotiations with Ford Motor Co. Both Volvo and Ford confirmed the

talks, but neither company would discuss details. Auto inclustry analysts say that there is little in Volvo's passenger-car line that would interest Ford. But the U.S. market is one of Volvo's strongest, and

that market increasingly is turning to passenger trucks — pickups, minivans and sport-utility models — which Volvo does not produce.

On the other hand, Volvo, in col-laboration with Volkswagen AG, is developing an expertise in fuel-efficient diesel engines, which car companies might embrace if the U.S. and other

governments start demanding that trucks meet tougher fuel economy standards.

Other Volvo flirtations include talks with Fiat SpA in Italy and, according to some sources, General Motors Corp.'s European operations. Volvo confirmed the Fiat talks but declined comment on any conversations with GM. GM officials declined to comment.

In 1994, Volvo sought to consolidate with the French antomaker Renault SA. But Volvo shareholders opposed the deal, and the companies sold the last of their cross-holdings in 1997.

Volvo, which earned nearly \$1 billion in the first nine months of this year, is engaged in a logical pursuit of longevity, Mr. Johansson said, seeking to expand its reach and its life by relying on a global supply base for the vehicles it needs.

Chrysler Corp., once the smallest car company in the United States, had attempted to pursue a similar strategy before deciding this year to become part of the largest German industrial power, Daimler-Benz AG. Now, DaimlerChrysler AG is ranked as the fourth-largest automaker in the world.

Will Volvo go the way of Chrysler? One Volvo official, who requested anonymity, put it this way: "There is a lot of brand equity in the Volvo name, and we are confident that Volvo will survive as a brand. What the ownership of that brand will be, we don't know. That is something we're leaving to the stockholders."

China Reducing Rates For 3d Time This Year

Surprise Cut Seeks to Stimulate Spending

BELIING -- China will reduce its

official interest rates Monday for a third time this year in a surprise move that reflects Beijing's desire a bolster economic growth by stimulating consumer

The cuts will average about 0.5 percentage point for loans and deposits and will take effect immediately, the official Xinhua press agency reported Sunday, quoting the central bank.

The decision to trim interest rates comes as top Chinese bankers and economic officials are meeting in Beijing for their annual conference to set new targets for the year ahead.

The move came as a surprise. Officials of the People's Bank of China said recently in London and Beijing that another rate reduction was unlikely this

The rate cuts "are tied to the latest round of reductions on interest rates by developed countries, giving China room to lower rates," Xinhua said. On Thursday, 11 European nations cut interest

rates in a coordinated action. The move may bolster shares of Chinese companies listed in Hong Kong and on mainland Chinese markets. Lower interest rates will reduce debtrepayment costs for companies while making investment cheaper and encouraging more consumers to spend rather

The official interest rate for one-year loans will fall to 6.39 percent from 6.93 percent, while one-year deposit rates will drop to 3.78 percent from 4.77 percent, according to a report carried by state-run China Central Television.

The Xinhua report said interest rates for deposits on call and for three-month deposits would remain unchanged, while all other deposits and all loan rates will be reduced.

The central bank also will cut interest rates on reserve funds to 3.24 percent from 3.51 percent, while rates for central bank loans to financial institutions will drop to 5.06 percent from 5.61 percent, Xinhua said.

Beijing is expected to report later this month that the economy has come close to meeting the government's full-year target of 8 percent growth, registering

perhaps 7.8 percent growth.

Although down from the 8.8 percent rate in 1997, growth this year has defied many forecasts, including that of the Asian Development Bank, which last month estimated that the economy would grow about 6.5 percent.

China's growth stands out in a region where many countries are facing their

first recessions in more than a decade, with at least four economies - Indonesia, South Korea, Malaysia and Hong Kong — expecting to report negative growth of more than 6 percent in 1998.

The interest-rate reductions come amid reports that Beijing intends to focus its efforts next year on deepening economic reforms rather than on seeking a higher growth rate.

'Structural reform has returned to the top of Chinese policymakers' agenda," the China Daily Business Weekly said, quoting economists. "The

obsession with growth rate targets seen in 1998 is not likely to be repeated."

Still, the new round of rate cuts may suggest a shift in government strategy toward monetary measures rather than relying on budget handouts or leaning

on banks to foster growth. rise in 1999 as government efforts to bolster growth by investment spending

China last cut interest rates July 1. Besides being the third reduction this year, the newest rate cuts are the fourth

since October 1997. (Bloomberg, AFP) ■ A Lift for Hong Kong Stocks?

Hong Kong stocks are expected to get a lift this week from a reduction in local interest rates, despite mixed signals on the health of the economy, analysts said over the weekend, Agence France-Presse reported from Hong Kong.

The region's leading banks cut their lending rates late Friday by a quarter of a percentage point for the third time in less than two months, moving to ease a credit crunch blamed for worsening the economic slump.

Analysts said the rate reduction

would help breathe new life into the market, which improved by 7.25 percent last week after a meteoric rally of about 60 percent since mid-August. But they warned against excessive

optimism, saying the outlook remained uncertain. Many predicted that the market could

come back down to earth with a bump unless the economy showed clearer signs of recovery.
"It's a short-lived story," said Mar-

shall Mays, chief strategist for Nikko Securities Co. "We are seeing a typical cycle of temporary liquidity, and the biggest factor we are working against is portfolio impatience."

Hong Kong recorded its worst quarterly performance on record in the three months to September, with the economy estimated to have shrunk by a

CURRENCY RATES

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Deutsche Telekom Sees 20,000 Job Cuts by 2000

Bloomber News bilCom AG have gained BONN — Deutsche about 30 percent of Ger-Telekom AG plans to cut many's 30 billion DM long-20,000 jobs, or 11 percent of distance market. The former its work force, by 2000 to monopoly said last month it bolster competitiveness and would match its competitors' slash costs, the chief execu-pricing strategy and slash tartive, Ron Sommer, said in an iffs as much as 63 percent. interview published Sunday.

A Deutsche Telekom spokesman, Ulrich Lissek, said the restructuring was 'part of an ongoing program started as part of our privatization in 1995," when the SA did not pose a threat to jobs company employed 230,000 at its German home base, Reupeople. "We expect to have ters reported from Frankfurt. 170,000 employees in 2000 - we will reach the target," he said.

Deutsche marks (\$23.9 bil-

Telekom is seeking to bol-

ster carnings as analysis es-

timate that rivals such as Mo-

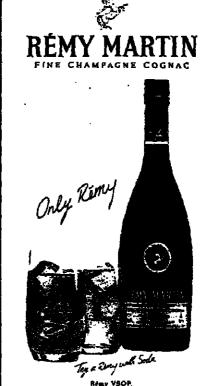
lion) from 165 billion DM.

■ Jobs Safe, Hoechst Says Hoechst AG's chief execntive, Juergen Dormann, reiterated that the company's linkup with Rhone-Poulenc

"We have an agreement with the unions which secures jobs in the area and runs until 2002," Mr. Dormann told In the interview, with Bild am Sonntag, Mr. Sommer Der Spiegel magazine. "We also said the company had are looking for trainees." reduced its debt by 40 billion

Hoechst and Rhone-Ponlenc said last week they would fold their drugs and aerochemicals businesses into a Strasbourg-based joint ven-ture to be called Aventis.





British Outcry Over a Tax Plan That Doesn't Exist Astonishes EU Officials

By Barry James International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS - The European Commission is inured to the euromyths cooked up by the British press, which has accused it of imposing legislation on all manner of things from ANALYSIS straight bananas to hair

nets for fishermen. But even the commission, the executive body of the European Union. has been taken aback by the storm in Britain over an imaginary plan for tax "harmonization" in Europe, which has included an angry debate in the House of Commons and warlike language in

the popular press. The commission president, Jacques Santer, has said that in reading certain British newspapers he wondered whethOn Friday, Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany called British press attacks "tasteless."

The disputed was stoked last week by Mr. Schroeder and his finance minister, Oskar Lafontaine, who in reply to questions conceded that EU members may not indefinitely retain a right of veto over tax decisions.

This is quite true. The entire question of unanimous voting is under question as part of a review of EU structures in preparation for an enlargement to take in as many as 11 new members. It is generally recognized that struc-

tures designed for the original six mem-

bers of the European Common Market

will be totally inadequate for a community of 26. Even now, a rule requiring unan-imous votes is proving a handicap to the

er he and they were on the same planet.
On Friday, Chancellor Gerhard smooth running of the EU.

Last week, for example, Spain rejected an anodyne measure first proposed in 1970 to allow worker participation in trans-European companies that do not even exist as yet.

Officials suspect the real reason for Spain's veto was to give it a further bargaining point in its campaign against any reduction in the subsidies it gets from the EU in negotiations on the organization's budget

The advent of the single currency Jan.

1 will inevitably promote a degree of tax coordination among the 11 nations adopting the euro. In fact, this is provided for in the Maastricht Treaty on European Union, which has been signed by all member countries. With the European Central Bank responsible for monetary stability, fiscal policy will be the primary tool available to governments

to promote economic growth or cope with downturns.

But the kind of common taxation evoked by Fleet Street, with decisions being made in Brussels rather than London, is not remotely in the cards.

After all, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands have been members of the Benelux monetary union for half a century, and each has its own tax policy. Along the Belgian-Luxembourg frontier, gasoline is still cheaper on the Luxembourg side.

EU members, including Britain. already are cooperating on tax policy in three areas - corporate taxes, interest on savings and the elimination of withholding taxes on interest and royalty payments between associated compa-

Countries agreed in Luxembourg a year ago on a voluntary code of good they would seek to eliminate beggarthy-neighbor loopholes. A committee, under British chairmanship, has been working for several months to identify such loopholes, and last week it handed to finance ministers an initial list of

more than 80 possible offenders.

They include, for example, offshore financial operations in Trieste, Madeira, Gibraltar and Ireland. Tax-free zones are acceptable, the commission says, provided they contribute to regional development and do not exist merely for the purpose of tax evasion.

A commission spokesman denied there was any plan to impose a min-imum rate of corporation tax in

Ireland has a standard rate of 32 percent but also has a preferential rate of 10 percent for foreign manufacturers and

SHORT COVER

OPEC Seeks to Expand

MUSCAT, Oman (Bloomberg) -The secretary-general of the Organizarion of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Rilwanu Lukman of Nigeria, said three of the world's biggest non-OPEC oil exporters — Oman, Russia and Mexico — may join the 11-member group, the official Kuwait press agency KUNA reported Sunday.

Expanding OPEC could help the cartel, which controls about 75 percent of the world's known oil reserves, to fight

Seoul Investments Kise

SEOUL (Bloomberg) — Foreign direct investment in South Korea rose for the third consecutive month in November as foreign companies invested a total of \$1.38 billion in local companies.

The November figure — up 54.1 per-cent from October and 1,414 percent from November 1997 - was the second-biggest monthly foreign direct investment in South Korea, the Ministry

Fazio Urges Tax Cuts

of Finance and Economy said.

ROME (Bloomberg) - Bank of Italy's governor, Antonio Fazio, has urged the government to stimulate the economy by rolling back spending to lighten the tax burden and by investing

In his first public comments since Italy brought interest rates to a 40-year low Thursday, Mr. Fazio was quoted by the news agency Ansa as saying that those were the conditions for private interests to prosper, paving the way to a recovery in the economy and in em-

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conduct on corporate taxation and said financial services, and this has made an economic boom.

HO MATORAL MARKET

The commission approved that setup in 1987, when Ireland lagged far behind its partners, but now opposes the measure on the grounds that it is discriminatory and contrary to the spirit of the European single market. The commission, however, has no objection to Ireland's plans to adopt a common 12.5 corporate tax rate by 2003.

Mario Monti, the commissioner for the internal market and taxation, has repeatedly said that the commission's purpose is to reduce and simplify the tax burden for individuals and corporations

But EU legislation is only the tip of the iceberg. "The overwhelming majority of legislation facing business stems from member states," Mr. Monti said.

In 1997, member states notified to the commission some 640 new drag-rules, and that was only technical regulations for products. For its part, new legislative proposals from the commission have been reduced to a trickle."

On the question of taxing savings accounts, the commission is advocating either that countries retain a levy at the source or report income to the home governments of the depositors. Again, Mr. Monti says this is in-

tended to ensure the smooth operation of the single market.

It is distorting, the commission says, for any country — and Luxembourg springs to mind — to tax the savings accounts of its residents but to allow taxfree investments by depositors in other EU countries. The proposal to introduce a common system of withholding or tax reporting on investment accounts is part of a generally accepted policy in the EU to shift the burden of taxation away from labor, which is relatively immobile. capital, which is mobile.

Although the figure of 20 percent withholding of tax on savings accounts has been mentioned, Mr. Monti said the commission had no minimum figure in

Mr. Monti also insists that the commission wants taxes to be fairly spread and easy to understand.

'It is precisely by reducing tax avoidance and beggar-thy-neighbor measures, which give rise to an erosion of the tax base, that member states can reduce tax rates," he said in a recent

'If you create a tax heaven for a few people," he added, "you condemn the rest to a tax hell."

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Unocal Pulls Out of Group Planning Afghan Pipeline

By Steven LeVine New York Times Service

ALMATY, Kazakhstan — Unocal Corp. has withdrawn from a consortium that planned an \$8 billion energy pipeline system traversing war-tom Af-

ghanistan, a company executive said.

The decision was made under the pressure of low world oil prices, concern about the presence of the accused terrorist Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan and protests from feminist groups over Unocal's contacts with the Taleban, the fundamentalist Islamic movement that has taken power in the country.

Unocal also has closed its offices in three of the four Caspian-region republics produced in Turkmenistan to Turkey.

retreat from the area.

"The biggest reason is \$12 oil," said Scott Barber, the head of Unocal's remaining regional office in Baku, Azerbaijan, referring to the approximate market price of a barrel of crude oil.

You have to make priorities." The moves come against a backdrop of cost-cutting and mergers in the oil industry as crude prices have plummeted.

Unocal has responded to the difficult business climate by slimming down. Last month, the company withdrew from another consortium that had proposed a

\$650 million. There is a reassessment of activities

everywhere, and especially the Caspian," said Julia Nanay, a consultant at Petroleum Finance Co. in Washington. 'At oil prices at \$10 or less, how do you make money? That is the question for this industry.

Unocal's withdrawal from the Central Asia Gas consortium took effect Friday. Without Unocal, and with little prospect of another big company taking its place, the project is probably dead, analysts

The other consortium members are the government of Turkmenistan, Delta Oil

CHAEBOL: Kim Is Prepared to Order Conglomerates to Reform

Continued from Page 1

come" in South Korea's financial crisis, Kim Tae Dong, senior secretary for economic policy planning, said there were "many ways" the government could act for "correctional purposes" if the chaebol failed to behave.

First, the creditor banks may refuse to roll over their existing debt," he said. Next, "the creditor banks can ask the chaebol to get rid of their shares of commercial banks and other financial institutions.

The president and his aides would prefer that the chaebol act "voluntarily," as they have often said, but they made clear, in meetings Sunday with executives, that time is running out for

'voluntary'' actions. voluntary, self-directed workout," said

Sri Ram Aiyer, South Korea director of he replied, "The faster, the better." the World Bank, "but there is apparent resistance." No longer could major chaebol regard their money-losing companies as "too big to fail," he said, warning, that "inaction may necessitate intervention.

The failure of the top five chaebol to act has been one of the major frustrations of the International Monetary Fund, which pieced together a rescue package of nearly \$60 billion last December. Excessive credit extended to the chaebol was one major cause for the crisis.

Hubert Neiss, Asia-Pacific director for the IMF, reserved his sharpest criticism during a visit last week for the slow pace of chaebol reform.

"A recovery is difficult to imagine without visible success in corporate re-'The top five were allowed time for structuring," he said. "It has only started." Asked how quickly the chaebol should act,

Just as Park Chung Hee saw no point in big companies killing each other by selling the same products, Kim Dae Jung, who spent six years in jail under Mr. Park and his successor, insists on mergers for the same reason.

By the time the meeting Monday is over, government officials said, the president hopes that the chaebol chairmen will have agreed to shed 50 percent of their companies, some of them through mergers with their competitors.

What is considered to be the most obvious Big Deal would be the sale of Samsung Motor Co. to Daewoo Group, which owns Daewoo Motor Co., South Korea's second-largest motor-vehicle maker. In return for Samsung Motor, according to this scenario, Samsung Electronics Co., would acquire Daewoo Electronics Co.

in which it operated, making it the first large foreign oil company in the world to capital spending next year by as much as Inpex of Japan, Hyundai Engineering &

Crescent Group of Pakistan. When Unocal joined the project in 1995, it was viewed by many analysts as the most audacious gambit of the 1990s Caspian oil rush. The idea was to preempt other companies trying to solve the region's greatest problem - it is landlocked — and transport oil and gas from Turkmenistan across Afghanistan to Pakistan. Turkmenistan has the world's

fourth-largest reserves of natural gas.

There was to have been a 1,600 kiometer (1,000-mile) oil pipeline and a companion 570-kilometer natural-gas pipeline, in addition to a tanker-loading terminal in Pakistan's Arabian Sea port of Gwadar. At the oil prices that prevailed until Asia's economic collapse in mid-1997, the company projected annual revenue of \$2 billion, enough to recover the cost of the entire project in five years.

While many industry officials and analysts questioned the wisdom of planning such a huge infrastructure project across a war-ravaged country, Unocal opened offices in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan and Turkmenistan.

To help it sell the project to the many governments involved, Unocal hired retired prominent officials such as former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and a former U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, Robert Oakley, as well as a Caucasus expert, John Maresca.

Problems began with the Taleban's capture of the Afghan capital, Kabul, in September 1996. Unocal initially took a positive view of the movement's triumph, but then retreated when world attention focused on the Taleban clerics' treatment of women, who are forbidden to work or attend school.

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PAG

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Analysts Warn Asian Leaders Not to Let Stocks' Rally Slow Reform Effort

HONG KONG — Economically troubled Asian nations should not use the current rally in stock markets as an excuse to delay reform efforts, analysts warned, but should take advantage of the improved conditions to speed up

painful but necessary change. Signs are mounting, many analysts said, that some Asian leaders have become complacent amid the improved market conditions that have resulted from a series of interest-rate cuts.

Asian stock markets have soared by an average of around 30 percent since the U.S. Federal Reserve Board started cutting rates in September.

Europe followed suit last week, with 11 countries trimming rates in unison to accommodate the introduction of their single currency, the euro, next month. This creates a temptation to avoid reform," said Anand Aithal, regional

The 250 most active international bonds traded through the Euroclear system for the week ending Dec. 4. Prices supplied by Telekurs.

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Expected Jakarta: Indonesian Chamber of

This Week Commerce and Industry holds five-

year national congress, Tuesday to

Seoul: Initial public offering for Ja

Wha Electronics Co. Subscription

Thursday, Sahid Jaya Hotel.

The Week Ahead: World Economic Calendar, Dec. 7-11

Austrian Schilling

Belgian Franc

British Pound

Danish Krone

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strategist at Goldman, Sachs & Co. in Singapore. "If access to capital is too easy, then they won't reform." erates, but there has been little change among the five biggest ones, they said.
"Korea has taken a good whack at easy, then they won't reform."

There are signs that this already has happened, said Geoffrey Barker, chief economist at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson (Asia) Ltd.

Thailand, where the stock market has rallied about 20 percent this year in U.S. dollar terms, is struggling to get par-liamentary approval for bankruptcy laws essential for a cleanup of its banking sector. Also, a program for recapitalizing Thai finance companies has

been postponed indefinitely.
In South Korea, where stocks are up nearly 60 percent in dollar terms this year, few steps have been taken to reduce excess capacity, trim payrolls and force moribund companies into bankruptcy, analysts said.

Progress has been made in restructuring the smaller chaebol, or conglom-

113 Germany 5% 11/21/00 103.5771 4.9500 115 Germany 8% 07/20/00 103.9577 6.2500 118 Germany 8% 08/21/00 108.2500 7.8300 137 Treuhand 7 11/25/99 103.960 7.8300 137 Treuhand 7 11/25/99 103.8400 6.7600 144 Germany 8% 05/20/99 101.2500 6.0500 2ero 67/04/28 22.83000 5.0500 2ero 67/04/28 22.83000 5.0500 163 Treuhand 6% 05/30/4 115.2314 5.8500 169 Depta 5 02/20/40 115.2314 5.8500 167 Germany 189 Germany 7% 02/21/00 105.2520 7.3700 199 2E IB 196 Germany FRN 3.2273 09/30/40 99.5200 3.2400 4.970 197 Depta 6 07/20/40 105.2500 4.9500 197 Depta 7 09/20/99 102.9078 6.8000 7 09/20/99 102.9078 6.8000

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A schedule of this week's economic and financial events, compiled for the International Herald Tribune by Bloomberg Business News.

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Frankfurt: Trade-union presidents from Germany, Norway, Italy and

the Czech Republic hold a confer-

Wednesday and Thursday. London: Bank of England's policy

committee to discuss interest rates.

Basel, Switzerland: Bank for In-

ternational Settlements holds month-

London: Office for National Statis-

manufacturing production figures for

Bonn: October industrial output re-

Nuremberg: November unemploy-

ment figures; Federal Labor Office

news conference on the job situ-

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Wednesday and Thursday.

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restructuring its economy — better than most seasoned Korea-watchers would have guessed — and still come away

said. But the stock rally, they said, has intensified the foot-dragging on reform

"This is all politically and socially very difficult, and it requires leadership, sometimes a different leadership from

the one that got us into a mess in the first

place." Mr. Barker said.
"That's why when money comes in

and markets get pushed up, the tempta-

tion is just to ease off a bit. We're being

'It's an irony that countries only tend to reform when they are under tremendous pressure and overseas liquidity isn't there.'

with a dulled ax." Marshall Mays, chief strategist at Nikko Securities Co., wrote in his November market commentary.

There are many reasons the pace of reform in countries throughout Asia has been so slow, including the continued influence of established elites and vested interests despite striking political change in much of the region, analysts

Cps Materity Price Crt Yd

6¼ 95/15/02 108.8000 5.7400 8½ 04/01/99 101.4200 8.3800 4½ 04/15/01 102.5000 4.3900 3½ 11/01/01 100,7300 3.4700 6¾ 07/01/07 118.4400 5.7000

2.100012/04/00 102.8750 2.0400 zero 01/02/03 100.0000 0.0000 4½ 06/20/00 106.5000 4.2300 5¼ 03/20/02 115¼ 4.5500

6 01/31/08 113.6490 5.2800 5¼ 01/31/03 106.4430 4.9300 6.150001/31/13 115 9300 5.3000 5 (1/31/01 103.6400 4.8290

6% 12/31/19 -78.1632 7.9900
1234 06/24/28 31.000 41.1300
64 12/31/19 77.7344 8.0400
9% 09/15/27 55.6611 16.6200
3% 01/12/09 100.2500 5.2400
3% 02/28/25 47.5625 7.3500
5% 11/05/08 100.8576 5.2100
5.4067 04/25/24 64.3125 9.5200
10 06/26/24 64.3125 9.5200
10 06/26/24 64.3125 9.5200
10 06/26/27 32.0000 31.2500
5% 11/25/13 101.5000 5.4200
9% 01/15/07 97.1250 10.1700
5.52533 02/13/03 98.9500 5.5800
2em 01/11/99 99.9506 5.5800

28 Brzzii Crp S.L 5 04/15/14 76.6240 6.5300
33 Argentino 6% 03/29/05 79.6060 7.7700
39 Brzzii FRN 6% 01/01/01 65.5813 10.2900
47 Brzzii L FRN 6% 04/15/06 67.6454 9.0500
79 Vreshecon FRN 5.9688 12/02/15 12.9868 45.9600
84 Argentino por L 5% 03/31/23 71.8750 8.0000
87 Argentino por L 5% 03/31/23 71.8750 8.0000
94 Venezuela FRN 6% 03/31/23 71.8750 8.0000
94 Venezuela FRN 6% 12/18/07 59.0600 11.2200
11% 05/15/27 78.0000 12.2900
100 Brzzi 100 8/2 03/15/27 78.0000 12.2900
100 Brzzi 100 8/2 04/15/06 72.9925 8.3900
112 Brzzi 100 8/2 04/15/08 96.5760 79.1900

New York: National Association of Purchasing Management holds its

Washington: American Petroleum Institute's week'y report on U.S.

Mexico City: October revised trade

petroleum stocks, production, im-

ports and refinery utilization.

Economic Summit.

Japanese Yen

Swedish Krona

U.S. Dollar

164 Russko 170 Brozil S.L, FRN

227 RUSSIO 228 Brozii L

229 Italy 234 Poland Inter 236 Mexico B FRN 239 KFW Inth Fin 240 Bulgaria FRN 244 Bank Hungary

bailed out, essentially," he said. The weakening global economy

makes Asia's reluctance to reform a critical issue, he said. One of the most important hurdles confronting Asia is its lack of a well-

functioning banking system. Large chunks of capital are required to refinance the banking sector

throughout the region, but remaining sources of funding are expected to dry While we have relative strength in

overseas economies and relatively easy monetary conditions, it's easier to raise money, especially to raise money from overseas sources," Mr. Barker said.

That strength is not expected to last. Last week, the World Bank said there

was a "substantial risk" of a global recession and described the outlook for the world economy as precarious.

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If the world does fall into recession Asia will find it extremely difficult to make the changes necessary for recovery, analysts said.

"It's an irony that countries only tend to reform when they are under tremendous pressure and overseas liquidity isn't there," Mr. Barker said Mr. Aithal of Goldman Sachs

agreed. The bottom line is that reform is never as fast as our textbooks would

suggest," he said.
"No one ever reforms in a textbook

manner, and it's not realistic to expect

Bond Traders Keep a Bullish Outlook

Strong Jobs Report Fails to Shake Conviction That Inflation Will Stay Low

151 France B.T.F. zero 09/02/99 97.6703 3.1800 174 France OAT SP zero 04/25/23 29.0000 5.2000 175 FranceOAT 4 04/25/09 97.000 4.0100 175 FranceOAT 4 04/25/09 97.000 4.0100 193 France OAT 54 04/25/09 197.100 4.7000 219 France OAT 7½ 04/25/08 121.0800 6.1900 225 France BTAN 4 07/12/00 101.2200 3.9500 235 France BTAN 4 04/25/05 121.0800 4.7300 1246 FranceOAT 5½ 04/25/07 111.40 4.9400 249 France 5½ 04/25/29 110.3000 4.7900 NEW YORK — The surprise jump in U.S. jobs in November should not stop Treasury bonds from climbing in months ahead because inflation is not a problem and economic growth will

probably slow, investors say. The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond fell after the November jobs report was released Friday, finishing the week at a price of 103 6/32 to yield 5.04 percent, down from 5.16 percent a week earlier. So far this year, the total return from price gains and interest payments on 30-year Treasury bonds is 19 percent, beating the 15.9 percent return on the Dow Jones industrial average.

Investors say there is no reason for bond prices not to go on rising even after the report Friday that said U.S. payrolls rose by 267,000 in November, 58 percent more than expected. The monthly employment report also said that hourly earnings, a closely watched inflation gauge, rose a smaller-than-expected 0.2

"The long bond is in good shape," said Ted Neild, a bond manager at Nuveen Advisory Corp. in Chicago. He said he could see the benchmark 30-year Treasury yield falling toward 4.50 percent in six months.

Mr. Neild said that as a bond investor, he was not concerned about the rise in payrolis as long as low inflation continued to protect the buying power of bonds' interest payments. So far this year, the consumer price index is on the way to an annual increase of 1.7 percent for the second consecutive year. That would be the lowest two-year rise in prices since it was 1.4 percent in 1964 and 1965.

- The outlook for slow inflation is supported by weak oil prices, which fell to a producer price index for November, due Friday, is expected to show that prices

Bloomberg News survey of economists. What's more, forward-looking indi- since late September.

cators such as help-wanted ads and new claims for unemployment insurance point to a slowing ahead, Mr. Neild said. Help-wanted ads are declining, while

claims for unemployment are rising.

Also, the National Association of Purchasing Management said manufacturing activity in November slowed for a sixth consecutive month.

Recent announcements of job cuts planned at many large companies help support forecasts of slower economic

U.S. CREDIT MARKETS

growth and limited the impact of the jobs gain reported for November. Boeing Co., the world's biggest jetmaker, said last week it planned to cut 48,000 jobs by the end of 2000. Exxon Corp.'s proposed purchase of Mobil Corp. would result in the elimination of 9,000 jobs around the world. Asarco Inc., Weirton Steel Corp. and Johnson & Johnson also have announced job cuts recently.

Bond guys like nothing more than when everybody's out of work," said Alan Koepplin, who oversees fixed-income securities at SG Cowen Asset management In New York. "I'm optimistic that rates can move lower.'

Gienn Baker, a bond manager at Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. in New York, said he expected slower U.S. growth next year to bring down shortand long-term interest rates. By sometime in the first half, he said, he expects the economy will have slowed to a 1 percent to 2 percent annual growth rate, from 3.9 percent in the third quarter.
That slowdown means the Federal Re-

serve Board will probably cut short-term rates, Mr. Baker said.

The Fed already has lowered its target - the benchmark short-term rate it uses to influence access to money and credit were unchanged, according to a in the economy — by 75 basis points, or Bloomberg News survey of economists. three-quarters of a percentage point,

While the jobs report Friday probably. ruled out another rate cut at the Fed's next meeting Dec. 22, there is a good chance of more cuts in 1999, Mr. Baker said "While the picture of a slowing economy unfolds next year, they'll have some more easing to do," he said. That will clear the way for the 30-year bond yield to fall toward 4.75 percent in the next 90 days, he said.

Treasury bonds might also benefit if there is a renewal of the investor concerns that triggered a global flight from equities and emerging financial markets to say government securities this summer.

When Brazilian legislators turned down a plan to reduce the country's budget deficit and alleviate the high rates that are crippling its economy, the Dow Jones industrial average fell 2 per-cent, helping to spur demand for Treas

"Retail sales are going to be a vital" number to look at." said Charlie Keinhard, strategust at ABN-AMRQ Bank. He said those data, due Friday, would either continue the softness seef in August and November or, more likely, would show a rebound. Retail sales grew 1.0 percent in October and 0.3 percent in September.

Developments relating to Brazil's fi-nancial health and the performance of international equity markets were also expected to be of primary importance for the market this week. On Thursday, Brazil rejected a per-

sion reform bill, putting pressure on its financial markets and causing jitters in international equity markets.

Traders also will be looking at the Federal Reserve's Beige Book of re-

gional economic trends, which is scheduled to be released Wednesday.

contain any surprises," Mr. Reinhan said. Although at times the report ha been considered important by the market, it generally has little impact on bond prices. (Bloomberg, Market News)

New International Bond Issues

Compiled by Paul Floren

3 Ford Motor 5.5253 02/13/03 98.9500 5.5800							<u></u>
7 Calsse Damort zero 01/11/99 99.4516 5.1500	Compiled by Paul Flor	en					
4 Russio 11 07/4/18 24.8750 40.9300 18 mzil S.L. FRN 6½ 04/15/9 62.3700 9.9200 1 Venszuelg por A 6¼ 03/31/20 65.2500 10.3400 2 Italy 5 11/26/03 100.3842 4.9800 31FC 5 11/25/03 100.4541 4.9800	issuer	Amount (millions)	Mat.	Coup %	Price	Price end week	Terms
6 Barcelona City 81/1 92/15/05 113.8981 7.1300 8 Brozil par Zi 51/2 04/15/24 63.7500 8,6300	Floating Rate Notes			_			
0 Argentina FRN 5.198304/01/01 72.8500 7.1300 1 World Bank 5% 02/06/08 104.1935 5.5200	Deutsche Bank	\$500	2003	0.625	99.746		Over 3-month Libor, Nancallable, Fees 0.15%, (Dec sche Bank.)
3 Fujitsu 3¼ 12/13/00 89,0000 3,5100 5 Ecuador FRN 3¼ 02/28/15 55,2361 5,8800	WestPac Banking	\$200	2003	libor	99.516		Interest will be 3-month Libor, Noncollable, Fees 0.125%, Denominations \$100,000, \$158C.)
8 CCCI FRN 5.362506/27/04 99.4400 5.3990 9 Ford Motor 6'4 04/28/03 102.8750 5.9500	Hypovereinsbank	DM588	2008	0.16	100		Over 12-month Liber, Noncollable, Fees not disclosed, Denominations 180,000 enarity (LP, Margan.)
1 Chrysler 5.359204/27/05 98.2900 5.4500 3 The Brozzi 946 04/07/08 76.2449 12.3000	Public Power Corp.	ITL340,000	2004	0.65	99.78		Over 6-month Libor. Noncalizable. Fees 0.42%. (Credit Suisse First Baston.)
7 Russio 11 ²⁴ 06/10/03 34.5000 34.0600 8 Brozzii 5 04/15/09 53.6900 9.3100	Fixed-Coupons				_		
9 Italy 6 05/29/08 105.6041 5.6800 4 Poland Inter 5 10/27/14 92.9339 5.3800	BP Americo	\$300	2003	5	101.486	100.10	Reoliered of 99,911, Noncolighia, Fees 1 7/%, (J.P. Morgon.)
6 Mexico B FRN 6.038812/31/19 81.0000 7.4600 9 KFW Int Fin 5 11/25/03 100.5237 4.9700	Daimler-Chrysler	\$200 .	2002	51/4	101.223	99.98	Realizered at 99,848. Noncaliable. Fees 1 \$4%. (ABN ARRO.)
0 Bulgaria FRN 61% 07/28/11 69.0843 9.6800 4 Bank Hungary 61% 04/08/03 101.1250 6.4300	Deutsche Bonk Finance	\$150	2002	41/2	98.679	97.75	Reoffered at 97.279. Nancatlable, Fees 1 %%. (Deutsche Bank.)
	Ericsson	\$300	2003	5 1/2	99.185	98.75	Noncellable, Fees 0.30%. (Salamon Brothers.)
	Freddie Mac	\$3,000	2001	434	99.829	_	Noncetiable, Fees 0.75%. (Bear Steams.)
s News.	Freddle Mac	\$750	2003	3.58	100		Noncellable, Fees 0.15%, (Cradit Suisse First Baston.)
Americas	General Electric Capital Corp.	\$250	2010	41/4	98.841	98.50	Noncollable, Fees 0.35%. (Devische Bank.)
	Vattenfall	\$250	2008	5 %	99.624	99.67	Noncollable, Fees 0.35%, (Salaston Brothers.)
Los Angeles: Sun Microsystems Inc. sponsors Government, Busi-	TPSA	\$200	2003	716	99.752		Nonceliable, Fees 0.60%, Denominations \$10.000. (J.P. Morgan.)
ness, Education and Technology Ex-	TPSA	\$800	2008	7%	99.282		Noncolable/ Fees 0.65%. Denominations \$10,000. (J.P. Morgan.)
po. Tuesday to Friday. Washington: Practicing Law Insti-	Allied Domecq Financial Services	D/A500	2005	4%	101.795	100_20	Reoffered at 99.92. Noncollable. Feet 24%. (Warburg Dillion Read.)
tute presents Telecommunications Policy and Regulation Conference.	Hypovereinsbank	DM412	2008	6	99.706	_	Noncollable. Fees not disclosed. (J.P. Morgan.)
Thursday and Friday.	KFW Inti Finance	£250	2000	51/2	100.545		Reolfored of 99.545. Noncollable, Fees 1 W%. (Greenwich NotWest.)
	Sofeway	£200	2018	614	98.335		Noncolistile. Fees 0.625% (Credit Strisse First Boston.)
Washington: Agriculture Depart-	Wolfers Kluwer	DF400	2005	5 Va	701.19		Reoffered at 99.59. Noncaliable. Fees 2%: (Rabobank.)
ment reports on 1998 crop condi- tions for wheat, corn, soybeans and	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten	ECU1,000	2009	44	100.975	99.37	Reoffered at 99.30, Noncollable, Feet 0.325%. (Goldman Sachs.)
cotton. Company meetings: Blimpie Inter-	DSL Bank	ECU1,000	2004	3 5%	101.318	99.55	Realitered at 99.693, Noncollable, Fees 1 76%. (ABN Amro.)
national Inc.	EIBD	ECU1,000	2009	4	98.905		Noncollable, Fees 0.15% (Goldman Sachs.)
	Éuro Hydro	ECU1,000	2004	31/2	99.03		Recifiered at 98.86. Nanocillable. Fees 0.25%. (ABN Amra.)
New York: National Association of							

Last Week's Markets

Stock Indexes Nov.27 % Cree 9.331.08 — 3.44 309.93 — 0.23 309.97 — 1.55 990.97 — 1.55 1.192.29 — 1.22 1.421.31 — 1.25 583 — 1.45 2.016.44 — 0.72 14,639.97 15,069.39 420820 6.512.30 FRENCE CAC 40 -537 477523 5.121.48 9,963.14 10,742.71 **~7.2**5 Dec. 4 Nov. 27 % Cirge 1.083.00 1.117.13 -3.06 London p.m. fix.\$ 292.00 295.90

Europond Yields Weekly Sales

Euromarts

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FOR INVESTMENT INFORMATION Read THE MONEY REPORT every Saturday in the IHT.

Wednesday Sydney: Westpac-Melbourne Instiment Index survey

Frankfurt: European Central Bank's chief economist, Otmar Iss-Frankfurt Financial Journalists.

ation in Germany.

October.

balance report, November inflation rate and producer price index. ing, to speak to International Club of Washington: Mortgage Bankers As-Stockholm: National Debt Office to sociation of America's weekly report announce government borrowing re- on mortgage applications.

Washington: November durable goods orders; weekly unemployment claims; October wholesale in-

New York: Bond Market Association's annual business meeting.

posed merger with and Westralian Wellington: November food prices

ers meeting to consider the pro-

Sydney: RGC Ltd. holds sharehold-

Stockholm: November unemploy Zurich: Swiss National Bank news sales; Federal Reserve System's weekly report on commercial and industrial loans at U.S. commercial

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days are Monday and Tuesday. Monday

Thursday

Dec. 10

Friday

Dec. 11

Taipei: November consumer and holesale prices indexes. Tokyo: November domestic wholesale prices; 20-day trade balance for November, Bank of Japan releases figures on returns on principal savings products.

Taipei: Taiwan Ministry of Finance releases November exports, imports and balance of trade figures.

Tokyo: Machine Tool Builders Association releases figures on machine-tool orders for November.

tute releases its Consumer Senti-Tokyo: Ministry of Finance releases quarterly survey of corporate profits.

Sydney: November labor report. ellington: Government releases

Bern: Third-quarter gross domestic product data. London: Bank of England's Montrade-balance data for October and etary Policy Committee expected to import and export prices. make an announcement on the benchmark British interest rate.

> Bern: November unemployment reconference on monetary policy.

Ottawa: October new-car sales fig-

Washington: November retail

NEW YORK - When many passionate antique collectors find a prize item, they are likely to pay whatever it iskes to clinch the deal—but not Brian companies that are growing faster, significantly faster, than large-caps, and with 15.4 percentage the average fund in its category, according to Morningstar Inc., the finance of the Valuations are significantly cial publisher in Chicago.

Mr. Berghuis, 40, selects stocks of the morning of the statement of the state countryside and travels abroad looking cheaper," he said.

Mr. Berghnis, 40, selects stocks of the best bargains in Federal-style

Finding stocks with reasonable price/ companies with market capitalizations, chests, chairs and other furniture.
In the backwoods of Ontario, the

antiques are about half the price they are down here," he said from his Baltimore

his stock selections, too, an unusual trait. Berghuis from making his name as man-

his conservative approach to growth investing. But he is also wary of carnings that climb more than 30 percent a year, 12 That keen focus on price applies to That cautious bent has not kept Mr.

for a growth fund manager.

These days, Mr. Berghnis (pronounced BERG-hice) is happy to be mining medium-capitalization stocks.

"Generally, the midcap universe has the midca

times the share price, of \$750 million to \$5 billion. Some funds in the midcap growth category have bought large-cap-italization stocks to compensate for the relative under-performance of medium-

sized companies in recent years; but Mr. Berghuis said he avoided such "marketcap creep" because "you could miss out on a surge in midcan stocks."

He is betting that such a surge will come, although he is reluctant to say when. "I think there's a very good relative-valuation story in this sector at the moment," he said.

Mr. Berghnis relies heavily on what he calls "plodders," companies whose earnings "fairly reliably grow 12 per-cent to 15 percent a year in a fairly lowrisk way." But that doesn't mean all of his holdings are in that group. The median earnings growth rate of the portion of has hovered around 20 percent players leave and a stock's price falls.

since the inception of the fund. One reason Mr. Berghuis shies away from companies with much higher rates, he said, is that such gains are hard to sustain for long periods. He also tries to steer clear of momentum stocks, whose

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prices can surge on speculation. "Once in a while a stock that I own may become a momentum stock," he said. "I tend to err on the side of getting out early, and sometimes when I've done that, the stocks have even doubled again after I've sold them. But it's better than

being there when the music stops."

Mr. Berghuis sometimes bets the oth-

An example is his recent purchase of shares in Whole Foods Market, a retailer of natural foods. Whole Foods stock fell from \$70.125 in March to \$32 in November. He started buying it at \$35 in October; it now trades at \$48.

"I think there was a lot of momentum money in that stock, and it came out over the course of a couple of months,"

The company sells high-quality perishable foods in nearly 90 stores, a number Mr. Berghuis estimated could triple in a few years. He estimates earnings

growth at 23 percent for next year.

"I would think that the stock price will keep pace with earnings growth in the years ahead," he said. The stock is selling at 23 times its estimated 1999

Group Inc., a commercial lender with a market capitalization of about \$4.5 billion. Mr. Berghuis first bought the stock at \$27 in October: it closed Friday at \$29.0625, or 12 times estimated 1999 earnings per share. "If you look at where other commercial-finance companies trade, this one is at a severe companies in the 1980s and an additional

percent to 15 percent earnings growth at CIT over the next few years. "Here's a perfect example of sort of the lower end

CIT's business includes equipment financing, leasing, factoring and lending to small businesses. Many of its customers are too small to show up on the radar screens of big banks, Mr. Berghuis said, so its field becomes less

Mr. Berghuis sometimes sounds like hard-bitten value investor. One

'It's an out-of-favor stock in an outof-favor sector," he said. Fears of an economic slowdown, he added, have

Bracing for Bonus Time

Wall Street Compensation to Reflect Uneven Year NEW YORK - Wall Street firms will cut bonuses by as much as one-half reers in London. this year as a result of the plunge in stock and bond markets in the third quarter

that left some large investment banks with their first losses in almost four years — but the pain will not be spread

"You are going to see a very wide disparity between the top people and the marginal people," as well as among different businesses, said Gary Goldstein, president of Whitney Group, a New York-based recruitment concern.

The biguest bases will be bond and The biggest losers will be bond and emerging-markets traders at firms such as Salomon Smith Barney Inc., which

a \$1.33 billion loss on its fixedincome trading in the third quarter. Those traders can expect year-end checks to fall as much as 50 percent, recruiters said. But investment-banking stars, par-

ticularly those who advise on mergers, can look forward to paychecks of \$2 million or more, an increase of as much as 15 percent from last year. More than 70 percent of the annual

comes in the form of a year-end bonus

that typically is based on the profits of

the firm and of the employee's business group as well as individual performanc-In good years, bankers and traders roll in cash. In 1997, for example, more than 3,000 of Wall Street's top employees took home year-end checks of \$1 million or more as profits surged to

records. In 1998, only about half that many will be as lucky. Typically, pay cuts used to prompt defections in the securities industry. But

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your job," said James Young, head of capital markets at City & County Ca-

Merrill Lynch & Co. dismissed 3,400 employees, many of them in its fixedincome and emerging-markets divisions, after reporting its first quarterly loss in a decade in the third quarter. Salomon Salomon Jacobs ING Barings, CIBC Oppenheimer, Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Inc. and Bear Steams

Cos. also laid off people.

Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Morgan
Stanley Dean Witter & Co. are to hand out bounses in the next 10 days because their fiscal years ended in November. Executives at Credit Suisse First Boston and Salomon, which are on a calendar year, will take their cues from Goldman and Morgan Stanley.

Through the first seven months of this year, bankers and traders were on the way to their best year ever. Then Russia defaulted on some debts in August, triggering a plunge in corporate and emerging market bonds that left the U.S. securities industry with a \$117 million loss in the third quarter.

Goldman's trading losses battered its compensation of bankers and traders bonus pool and stripped the firm of an even bigger payoff its planned initial stock sale, which would have given some partners shares worth as much as \$100 million. Goldman and Morgan Stanley are

expected to cut the bonuses of fixedincome traders by as much as 50 percent, a person familiar with the firms

Morgan cut 60 jobs in its bonds division, or 4 percent of the unit's work

CSFB, which saw Russian trading losses slash about \$250 million off its that is no longer true for many traders first-half profit, is also likely to lower siddy. "A bonus this year is keeping bonuses in its bond unit by as much as

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Asset Management Expands in Taiwan

Bloomberg News

TAIPEI - Units of Citigroup Inc. and ING Groep NV have received permission to set up assetmanagêment businesses in Taiwan, allowing them to sell funds in the most active equity market in Asia.

Securities and Futures Commission officials have granted "preparatory licenses" to the two companies, a commission official said.

The two will join 27 existing fund managers in trying to penetrate a market where equity ownership is widespread but interest in mutual funds remains less common.

The equity market in Taiwan is

the most active in Asia in terms of trading value, with an average of 95 billion Taiwan dollars (\$2.94 billion) of shares trading hands each day during the past six months.

Most investors buy shares directly, but that hasn't stopped mntual funds from proliferating. Licensed funds in Taiwan include 108 open-end equity funds, 15 closedend equity funds, four balanced funds, 57 open-end bond funds and 25 funds that invest offshore.

"The business is very competitive," said Brian Tson, marketing manager at Grand Pacific Securities Investment Trust Co.

50 percent, according to The Wall Street Journal. The firms declined to comment

There is one bright spot: Bankers who specialize in mergers are likely to get raises, because corporate takeovers are up 78 percent from a year ago.

Because the decline in markets halted underwriting for several weeks, however, bonuses in equities and corporate finance probably will be little changed or down about 25 percent from

graph that grant agrangement of the chapter in the con-

Riding a New Wave of Mergers

For Stockholders, Bigger May Not Mean Better Returns

By Gretchen Morgenson New York Times Service

NEW YORK - They've only just begun to merge. That's the view of many market watchers after an extraordinary week of corporate combinations.

The 78 deals announced in the first four days of December had a value of \$89.9 billion, almost as much as was generated during all of November.

Analysis say that the same economic factors driving Mobil Corp. into the arms of Exxon Corp. — and Bankers Trust Corp. to join with Deutsche Bank AG -cut across many industries today. So more and more deals tomorrow are a certainty.
The biggest factor is excess capacity,

which is affecting banks, retailers, computer makers and producers of commodities like steel, paper and chemicals. When too many goods chase too few consumers, combining corporate forces and turning off some of the supply spigot is a natural response. Excess capacity has driven merger booms before. A centory ago, price declines similar to the ones seen in this decade created a wave of corporate consolidations that turned 1,800 companies into about 150.

While increased merger activity may right the supply-and-demand scales in some industries, megamergers are not necessarily good news for shareholders. The fact is, most deals are bad news for shareholders, because the combined company's stock usually underper-

forms its peers long afterward. Such are the findings of Mark Sirower, a professor of mergers and acquisitions at New York University's Stern School of Business. Mr. Sirower is the author of "The Synergy Trap: How

100 combinations valued at more than \$500 million apiece from the 1990s, Mr. Sirower found that roughly two-thirds left shareholders relatively worse off. For example, a portfolio of the 100

major acquisitions completed from 1994 to 1997, with each stock bought five days before the relevant deal was announced and sold five days after. would have produced returns that lagged behind other companies' in the merging entities' industries by an av-

erage of 2 percentage points.

What about the longer-term performance of the merged companies? The numbers are similar. Indeed, the loudest message from Mr. Sirower's research is that investors' initial reaction to a merger turns out to be uncannily prescient.

"The market is a pretty good pre-dictor of what we'll see a year later, or even four years out," Mr. Sirower said. He reached this conclusion by splitting the merged companies into two portfolios: those whose shares went up when deals were announced and those whose stock fell. One year later, the positive portfolio was still positive and

the negative still an underperformer. 'It's particularly interesting that those that stay positive do even better than their industry, and negatives that stay negative do even worse," he said. The deals the market liked from the start rose 18.51 percent; the ones investors disliked fell 22.58 percent.

Mr. Sirower hastened to add that these figures were averages, and that some deals that initially displease investors can and do turn around later. But the consistency of the market's mood on these combinations is remarkable. Almost 60 percent of those companies whose stock Companies Lose the Acquisition Game," published in 1997.

Studying 168 deals among large public began in positive territory stayed to while 67.3 percent of those whose shift the skids early remained down. began in positive territory stayed there, while 67.3 percent of those whose stock

earnings per share. Another recent purchase is CIT

discount," he said. Mr. Berghuis said he expected 12

of the growth spectrum in the fund, the so-called plodder, but I think a fairly reliable plodder," he said.

competitive as banks consolidate.

beaten-down stock for which he has high hopes is Romac International, which offers outsourcing of information technology, financial and accounting

In July, Romac was selling for \$32 a share. Mr. Berghuis started buying at \$20 a share in September. Last week it was down to \$16.4375 but above its low for the year, \$11.75, reached in October. But he said he expected Romac's earnings to grow 30 percent in 1999, partly because of its acquisition this year of a similar

company called Source Services.
"The blue-chip company in this sector is Robert Half International," he said. That stock trades for 25 times its estimated 1999 earnings per share. But Romac, which Mr. Berghuis said "could be another Robert Half in another few years," is trading at just 16 times its projected 1999 earnings.

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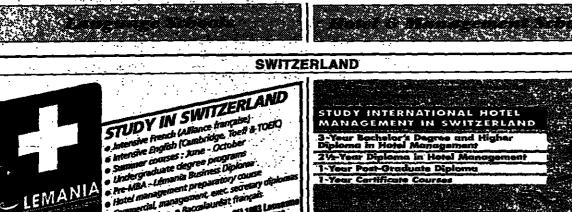
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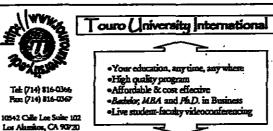
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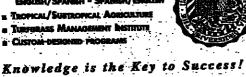
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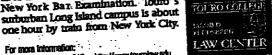
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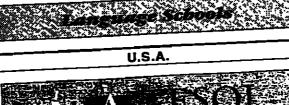
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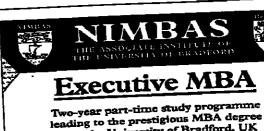


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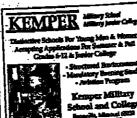
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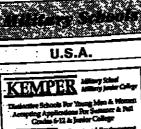
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Miami Thwarts UCLA Drive to **Triumph**, **49-45**

By Steve Harrison Washington Post Service

MIAMI — UCLA had covered for its defensive deficiencies so many times this season that even when Edgerrin James of Miami made a five-yard touch-down run with 50 seconds left to give his team a four-point lead, it seemed the No. 3 Bruins could find a way to preserve their undefeated record.

Suddenly trailing, 49-45, their quarterback, Cade McNown, led them to Miami's 29-yard line. Then they ran out

McNown's final pass sailed through the end zone as time expired Saturday, taking with it a school-record 20-game winning streak and probably a chance to win the national championship.

As the UCLA wide receiver Brian Poli-Dixon threw his helmet in disgust after the final play, Miami fans and players stormed the Orange Bowl field, celebrating the Hurricanes' return to glory. On Nov. 28, the Hurricanes lost the Big East Conference championship in a 66-13 rout at Syracuse. Against UCLA, they set a school record for yards gained in a game (689). The most yards any opponent had gained against UCLA until Saturday were the 600 racked up by Nebraska in 1983.

"We just couldn't get them stopped," said Bob Toledo, the UCLA coach, whose team fell despite gaining 670 yards, a school-record 513 of them on passing by McNown, who threw for five touchdowns and ran for one.

UCLA entered the game ranked 91st in total defense among 112 Division I-A teams, but it had remained undefeated by beating Oregon in overtime, holding on to a four-point triumph over Stanford by forcing a fumble at the 1-yard line and then upending Oregon State on a 61yard touchdown pass with 21 seconds to play. But Saturday, UCLA couldn't hold a 38-21 lead. And it couldn't stop James, who rushed for 299 yards.

Miami's upset was not only a testament to James's running, but also to Scott Covington's passing. The quar-terback completed 19 of 28 throws for 318 yards and three touchdowns.

The Bruins led, 45-42, with 3 minutes, 24 seconds remaining, when McNown completed a third-and-eight pass over the middle to Brad Melsby, who fumbled after being hit. The Miami safety Delvin Brown recovered on the Hurricanes' 26. Eight plays later, James

scored the winning touchdown.

Trailing 21-17 at halftime, UCLA roared back in the third quarter, scoring on touchdown yards for a 38-21 lead.

With the game slipping out of reach, Miami stayed with its game plan: Run James often and throw occasionally. James carried three times for 57 yards before Najeh Davenport capped an 80yard, four-play drive with a 23-yard touchdown run with 18 seconds left in

fumble, Covington hit the wide receiver Santana Moss for a 71-yard touchdown that cut the lead to 38-35. But UCLA came back when McNown finished a five-play, 87-yard drive with a one-yard touchdown run. With 6:54 left, UCLA

led 45-35 But Miami countered when Covington threw a 29-yard touchdown pass to Mondriel Fulcher with 6:08 left. With UCLA protecting a 45-42 lead, McNown threw to Melsby, whose

fumble set the stage for James. In other major college games, The Associated Press reported:

Army 34, Navy 30 In Philadelphia, the 99th game between the service academies was marred by the collapse of a railing at Veterans Stadium. The accident, which injured nine fans, occurred after a 70-yard touchdown run by Ty Amey gave Army a 31-30 lead in the highest scoring game in the history of

Air Force 20, BYU 13 In Las Vegas, Air Force shocked Brigham Young with a 59-yard touchdown pass late in the fourth quarter in the Western Athletic Conference championship.

> 25 Stick on 29 More than once

31 J.F.K.'s

36 Not written

37 Storyteller's embellishment

40 Win's 0000318

41 Silly syllables

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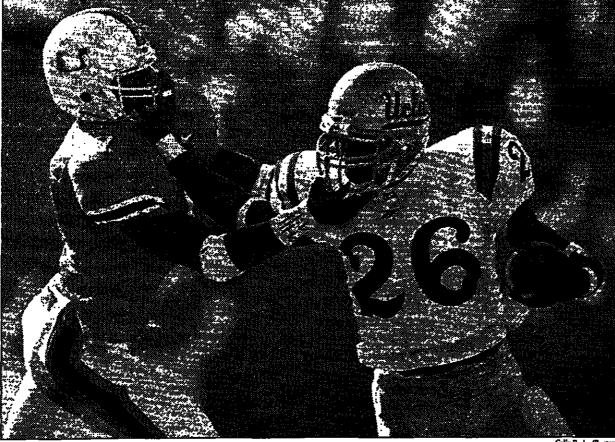
43 Aye, aye!

45 Gets around

dissipa

44 Give UD

around the track



Miami's Al Blades, left, and UCLA's DeShaun Foster grabbing one another's face masks in the second quarter.

Tennessee Rallies to Stay Undefeated

By Ken Denlinger Washington Post Service

ATLANTA - Tennessee scored two touchdowns in a 28-second span in the fourth quarter to overtake Mississippi State and win the Southeastern Con-

The 24-14 victory Saturday kept the Vols unbeaten and ensured their place in the Fiesta Bowl, the game that is designed to decide the U.S. college foot-

The Vols defense was exceptional, and Tee Martin, the Tennessee quarterback, threw touchdown passes of 41 yards and 26 yards in the fourth quarter. The Tennessee defense did not give up any points, with Mississippi State scoring on an 83-yard punt return by Kevin Prentiss and a 70-yard interception by cornerback Robert Bean. Prentiss's dash down the left sideline put the Bulldogs ahead, 14-10, with 8 minutes and That's when Martin and his receivers

became heroes. First, the Vols drove 75 yards with Martin flinging the ball high and true toward the aptly named Peer-less Price from the 41. The cornerback Adesola Badon was stride-for-stride with Price, but Price outleaped him in the left corner of the end zone and kept his right foot inbounds to give Tennessee the lead for good, 17-14, with 6:15 left.

The Volunteers beat Auburn for the SEC title last season, but were beaten by Nebraska for the national championship in the Orange Bowl. Tennessee has not won a national championship since 1951. That team was 10-0, but lost to Maryland in the Sugar Bowl.

After Price's touchdown, Tennessee recovered a fumble by the Mississippi State quarterback, Wayne Madkin. Shortly after, wide receiver Cedrick Wilson broke free in the end zone and Martin was on target from 26 yards

The Bulldogs took the lead first, 7-0, after a weaving 70-yard interception return by Bean at the end of the first quarter. Bean tipped the ball, then controlled it after it seemed to bounce off his right leg. From his 30, Bean ran toward the right sideline, cut across to the left sideline at about the Tennessee
45 and sidestepped a Volunteers lineman near the 10 before skipping into the
end zone, Brian Hazelwood kicked a 35yard extra point because the Bulldogs were called for a personal foul.

Tennessee struck back after an interception and tied the score midway through the second quarter. Free safety Deon Grant caught an underthrown pass by a pressured Madkin and returned it 24 yards to the MSU 20. Martin completed an eight-yard pass on third and three and the tailback Travis Stephens

Texas A&M Stuns Kansas State With TD Pass in Double Overtime

New York Times Service

ST. LOUIS - A slant pass in the second overtime from a second-string quarterback to a second-team running back shuffled the rankings in the Bowl Championship Series.
As it turned out, a stiff-arm at the one-

yard line will keep Kansas State out of the national title game at the Fiesta Bowl, not penalty points for strength of schedule. Texas A&M beat Kansas State, 36-33, Saturday on an emotional day in college football.

The Wildcats lost more than the game and more than the Big 12 championship. They lost their unbeaten season and the chance of playing in the Fiesta Bowl for

the national championship.
On Sunday, they dropped to fourth place in both the USA Today/ESPN Coaches poll and The Associated Press poll, both components of the Bowl Championship Series equation. UCLA fell to fifth in the coaches' poll and sixth in the AP poll. Florida State climbed to second in both polls and will play No. 1
Tennessee in the Fiesta Bowl.
Ohio State, which climbed to third in

both polls, will play Texas A&M in the Sugar Bowl, UCLA will play Wiscon-sin in the Rose Bowl, and Florida will play Syracuse in the Orange Bowl. Saturday's defeat dropped the Wildcats out

of the major bowl picture.

Kansas State lost when Branndon. Stewart -- a senior quarterback whose football odyssey has taken him from the backup role behind Peyton Manning at Tennessee to a benching earlier this season at Texas A&M — hit Sirr Parker on the 28-yard line in double overtime in the Big 12 championship game.

Parker, an Aggie senior, zigged inside cornerback Jerametrius Butler, then zagged out to the corner. Next, he delivered a punishing push to the face of the Wildcats' Lamar Chapman and powered over the goal line.

Parker earlier caught a pass on the same pattern to bring the Aggies within 27-25 in regulation, then caught the two-point conversion to send the game

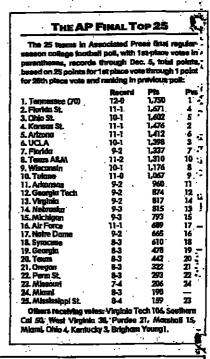
Kansas State was ahead by 14 points with 10 minutes, 37 seconds left in the first half when the public-address announcer informed the more than 60,000 people - most of them dressed in the purple of Kansas State — at the Trans World Dome that UCLA had lost. It came seconds after quarterback Michael Bishop had heaved a 66-yard bomb to

Darnell McDonald. The crowd roared. The Kansas State players beamed smiles and slapped high fives. They had come into this game ranked third in the Bowl Championship Series and needed either Temessee or the Brums to lose. They celebrated. The Aggies steamed. Neither state of mind lasted long.

The Wildcats outgained Texas A&M 519 yards to 452, but racked up 110 yards on penalties and turned the ball over three times. The biggest was on third down with 2:22 left in the game Bishop, who threw for 341 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another appeared to pick up the first down that would have allowed the Wildcats to run out the clock, but linebacker Warrick Holdman knocked the ball loose, and Cornelius Anthony recovered on the 35-

Stewart, who was replacing an in-jured Randy McCown after losing his job to him after the fifth game of the season, slung a sidearm pass down the field to a streaking Matt Bumgardner. He lunged for the ball and caught it on the 14-yard line.

"It's very evident that we are tre-mendously disappointed," Kansas State's coach, Bill Snyder, said after the game. "This is a big hunt for our coaches, players and fans. I have so much pride in the players and fans." Then his voice cracked, and he cried.



Canadiens as **Czech Rookie** the third quarter. After Miami recovered a UCLA Gets OT Goal

The Associated Press There's nothing like the rivalry between the Toronto Maple Leafs and Montreal Canadiens. Ask Toronto's Tie Domi. "Everyone gets excited for these games and the players feed off that," Domi said after scoring the tying goal and watching Tomas Kaberle blast in

NHL ROUNDUP

the winner at 34 seconds of overtime as

Republic, blasted the puck past Jeff Hackett to give the Maple Leafs their

in regulation when a rookie defenseman, Brett Clark, lost the puck at the Montreal blue line, allowing Darby Hendrickson to shoot and Domi to slide the rebound past Hackett.

soft wrist shot from the left side that got



The Bruins' Steve Heinze, right, chasing the Penguins' Alexei Kovalev.

the Maple Leafs won, 4-3, in Montreal, on Saturday night.

Kaberle a mokie from the Czech third victory in a row.

Domi had tied the game with 2:20 left

Martin Rucinsky had given Montreal the lead at 7:22 of the third period on a

Patrick Poulin also scored for slumping Montreal. The Canadiens have won only two of their last 12 games.

There's a fine line between winning and losing and we've been finding ways to lose," said Mark Recchi, Montreal's acting captain.

Montreal outshot Toronto 28-26. "When things are going good, you have to enjoy it," said Mats Sundin, the Maple Leafs captain. "We found a way

to win against Ottawa last week and we. did it again tonight."
The first of five meetings between the
Maple Leafs and Canadiens, reunited as

Northeast Division rivals this season, drew a sellout crowd of 21,273, in-

past Curtis Joseph. Shayne Corson and cluding many wearing Maple Leaf jer-

and Niklas Sundstrom each scored firstperiod goals as the New York Ranger won in Ottawa for their fourth straight

s 3, Flames 2 Greg Adams's fifth goal in his last six games gave Phoenix a victory in Calgary. Nikolai Khabibulin only had to make 16 saves as he improved his career record against Calgary to 10-1-1. The Flames have lost

six of their last eight games.

Red Wings 4, Kings 3 Steve Yzerman
and Brendan Shanahan scored 25 seconds apart during a three-goal first period and Tomas Holmstrom scored the go-ahead goal early in the third as

Detroit won in Los Angeles. Panthers 3, Hurricanes 3 Ray Shep-pard, a former Panther, scored his ninth goal in his last 11 games and added an assist on the game-tying goal to lift Carolina to a tie in Florida, extending the Hurricanes' unbeaten streak to six

Avalanche 3, Blues 1 Claude Lemieux scored a power-play goal with 4:50 re-maining and Joe Sakic had an empty-net goal as Colorado won in St. Louis to move to the .500 level for the first time this season.

Sabres 3, Predators 1 Brian Holzinger scored the winning goal with 5:13 left and Dominik Hasek made 36 saves as Buffalo won in Nashville for its fourth straight victory. Bruins 2, Penguins 1 In Boston,

Shawn Bates scored his first goal of the season and assisted on another as the Bruins extended their unbeaten streak to seven games with a victory over Pittsburgh.

Devils 7, Islanders 5 New Jersey got

goals from seven different players and needed them - as it hung on to win on Long Island. Jason Amott, Krzysztof Oliwa, Bobby Holik, Brendan Morrison, Dave Andreychuk, Petr Sykora and Patrick

Elias all scored for the Devils. Flyers 2, Capitals 1 In Philadelphia, Rod Brind'Amour scored two powerplay goals and Ron Hextall made 22 saves as Philadelphia s beat Washington. It was the fourth loss in the last five

games for last season's Stanley Cup finalists.

After Free-Agent Frenzy, Hot-Stove League Warms

By Murray Chass New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In the span of three days, 35 free agents signed contracts worth \$225 million, and there went the winter meetings. This was in December 1992, in Louisville, Kentucky, and the free-agent frenzy sent officials home reeling. Never again, they said, vowing not to provide agents with that kind of op-

But the agents have not suffered in the absence of the winter meat mar-ket. In just one recent week, five free agents signed contracts worth a total of \$330 million. Inflation and escalation contributed to the cascade of dollars, but clubs proved they did not have to be a captive audience to spend lavisbly.

Perhaps most interesting about the signings of Mo Vaughn, Bernie Williams, Randy Johnson, Albert Belle and Rafael Palmeiro was that the agents did not wait for the return this week of the winter meetings to stir up another feeding frenzy. Yes, the meetings are back, six

years later, officials having decided that enough time had passed to make it safe to go into the water again. The one thing the sport could al-

ways count on was that the meetings would generate a week's worth of talk about baseball. Teams would make trades that would command huge amounts of newspaper space and television time, and even if they did not complete player swaps, spec-ulation about possible trades would serve the same purpose.

Without the meetings, general managers became accustomed to making deals before December, and this year, players like Bobby Bonilla, Charles Johnson, Todd Hundley, Ron Gant, Bret Boone and Denny Neagle have already been traded. Roger Clemens will join that group if the Toronto Blue Jays meet their own

That is not to say that general managers will not find trades to make at these meetings, which will begin Friday in Nashville and run through Dec. 15. When they gather in one place, general managers spend most of their time talking with each other - in pairs, of course - as they feel each other out to determine whether they have a match for a trade. But there is always far more talk and speculation than business conduc-

Some clubs may not have any business to conduct at the revival meetings. Assuming Clemens is traded before Nashville, the New

Baseball Readies for Revived Winter Meetings York Yankees figure to be observers. They have already had a solid off-

season because they have kept their World Series championship team to-

gether while their chief competitors

have stumbled and bumbled their way out of contention. If the New York Mets sign Rickey
Henderson in the next few days to be their leadoff hitter and left fielder, they will join the Yankees on the

The Mets have had a good offseason because they retained the players they wanted to keep (Mike Piazza, Al Leiter, Dennis Cook) and they have added two run producers (they hope) in Robin Ventura and Bobby Bonilla, and a hard-throwing relief pitcher, Armando Benitez, who

someday could grow into Iohn Franco's closing role. The Arizona Diamondbacks have had a good and expensive offseason. adding six free agents, including Randy Johnson, Todd Stottlemyre and Steve Finley (to be announced), but committing about \$119 million in doing it. If the dollars do not translate into vast improvement, the expansion team will be viewed as the epitome of excess.

Some teams have had a dreadfulsix weeks since the World Series. The San Diego Padres, who played in the World Series, have lost their third baseman, Ken Caminiti, and their centerfielder, Finley, and are on their ways. their way to losing Kevin Brown, their No. 1 pitcher. The Chicago White Sox have lost Belle and Ve

tura, who drove in 28 percent of their runs last season. For awful offseasons, though, who can match Baltimore? The Orioles? have signed Belle, B.J. Surhoff and Delino DeShields, but they failed to sign three free agents they wanted: Ventura, Brian Jordan and their own, Palmeiro. Roberto Alomar and Eric

Davis also departed as free agents. The Orioles, though, at least had various plans. The Boston Red Sox 4 incredibly let Vaughn walk away without having a reasonable alternative plan in mind. They tried to sign Williams as Vaughn's replacement in their lineup, but they had to know he would be a long shot at best, and they had no cive where it go

\$87.5 million instead of theirs. The Orioles and the Red Sox been reduced possibly to going he to bead for Will Clark to fill their holes at first base, but the diminished. Clark will not replace Palmeiro's 43 home runs and 121 runs batted in or Vangha's 40 and 115 But anything is possible.

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Marathon Won By Takahashi of Japan at Opening Of Asian Games

BANGKOK — Naoko Takahashi of Japan won the first gold medal of the Asian Games on Sunday with one of the fastest-ever times for a women's mara-

Hours before King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thatland officially opened the games. Takahashi, a 26-year-old running her third marathon, ignored both her. coach's orders and the intense heat and humidity to Main in two hours, 21 minutes and 47 seconds. Only four women have run faster marafrons. women have run faster marathons.

Takahashi broke the Asian record and smashed her personal best by four minutes. She ran almost the entire distance on her own, with only commuter traffic

on adjoining roads for company.

Kim Chang of North Korea, 13 minutes beltind. mok the silver in 2:34:55 after outsprinting Tomoko Kai of Japan over the final 200 meters.

For much of the race, Takahashi was on schedule to fiest the world record of 2:20:47, run by Tegla Loroupe of Kenya in much better conditions in April in Rotterdam. But as the marathon went on, humidity climbed to around 70 percent and temperatures were

near 30 degrees centigrade (86 degrees Fahrenheit).

Yoshio Koide, Takahashi's coach, said: "I told her to keep the pace down because it was hot, but she inswered she was going to run at her best pace. Her strong point is, she never likes running alongside or belind other runners."

Elsewhere, there were problems in the snooker hall. James Wattana, a world-ranked Thai player, lost five innes to one in the first round to Chan Kwok ming of Rong. Kong. The event's organizers had such confidence in Wattana that the schedule had been arranged so that Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai might present

him with the gold medal.

The old-fashioned etiquette of snooker was breached in the game between Yashin Merchant of India and Mohammed Saleh of Pakistan - it was interrupted by

a 15-minute argument. Merchant won the game, 5-4.

A That referee decided that Merchant had committed a foul during the final frame, prompting several members of the Indian team to go to the playing arena. to argue. One wrote a quick protest letter using the snooker table as a writing platform.

"It does not look nice for grown-up men wearing neckties to fight," said Shahnawaz Khan, the

Pakistani team manager...



Nacko Takahashi of Japan winning the marathon Sunday at the Asian Games in Bangkok.

Nightlife a No-No for Athletes

BANGKOK - For some teams, "out of bounds" at the Asian Games means more than just a line on a soccer field or basketball floor. That's because the host city offers a nightlife scene that officials from various nations fear will tempt their athletes and distract them from the business at hand.

The Pakistanis say all of their athletes and officials at the games have been told not even to think of "nightlife ideas." The Indian team's solution is mandatory meetings for all athletes before bedtime. The Sri Lankan participants, who had to sign a code of conduct before coming to Bangkok, are being watched by a military officer.

Bangkok is known for its titillating night life and bar district, known as Patpong. From taxi drivers to local tourist magazines distributed free at hotels, there are messengers aplenty to advertise massage parlors and escort services.

Estimates of the number of female sex workers in Thailand, a country of 60 million, range from 300,000 to 2 million.

"No way," said Gurdayal Singh Mander, the leader of the Indian contingent, when asked if there was a risk that his athletes might yield to temptation. "I believe no one will try anything silly in Bangkok.

Even if they try, our watching system is watertight and we will know."

Mander, a former police officer, said Indian officials meet the country's athletes at 10 P.M., just before their bedtime at the Asian Games village. The Pakistanis have opted for trust and nationalism. A Pakistani medical officer, Yousef Baig,

said: "We have told them, 'Don't break our trust.

Keep the good name of Pakistan flying high.' "China has taken a similar approach. "We don't treat them as kids, telling them don't do this, don't do that," said Li Furong, deputy head of the Chinese delegation. "We just told them to leave a good

impression of Chinese athletes, For the Sri Lankans, "Even if they want to go to shopping, one of us will accompany them, "said Upali Bandaratillaka, a brigadier in the Sri Lankan Army.

Thailand, meanwhile, is stressing that sex isn't lurking around every corner. A "Traditional Thai Massage Parlor" has been opened at the village where the athletes stay.

'Thai traditional massage is considered an art form," said Prarop Laovanich, secretary of the Asian Games subcommittee for culture and per-formance. "A skilled masseur can cure ailments and muscular fatigue."

Dominate Springboks 13-7 Loss Keeps South Africa From Record South Africa's winning run had been marked by late rallies, evidence that it By Peter Berlin International Herald Tribune

England's Forwards

LONDON -- South Africa had to settle for a share of rugby union history after it lost to England at Twickenham. The Springboks, who had won 17 consecurive internationals, needed to bear England on Saturday to break the record set by the New Zealand All Blacks from 1965 to 1969. Instead, England won, 13-7, leaving South Africa half a record.

It is a measure of how much international rugby has changed that while the All Blacks took more than four years to set the record, the Springboks equaled it in 16 months.

During that time Louis Luyt, a bombastic Afrikaner, was replaced as president of the South African Rugby Foot-

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY

ball Union by Silas Nkanunu, a black human rights lawyer. Yet the organization's response to the loss could have come straight from the Luyt school of public relations. It took out an adverisement in South African newspapers Sunday headlined: "Seventeen Consecutive Wins - Sorry."

It read, in part: "So we didn't beat the New Zealand record for consecutive wins. We equaled it. It's still an awesome achievement. We're still the un-

disputed world champions."
But that title will be disputed in just under 12 months, when South Africa returns to the Northern Hemisphere to

defend its World Cup in Europe. South Africa won three of its four internationals on this visit to the British Isles, at the end of a long and tiring season. Now its players can return home for a well-merited rest, but by the time the World Cup rolls round, they could be drained again.

The World Cup is being played in the autumn to avoid clashing with the European five nations tournament and the Tri-Nations and Super 12 tournaments in the Southern Hemisphere.

While the northern countries will be just starting their season when the World Cup starts, the southern players will have completed another packed season of provincial and international games.

One of the curious aspects of South Africa's run was that while the first nine victories were by an average of nearly 36 points, the last eight were by an average of just 11 points. That in part reflects tougher games, but its also reflects a more conservative approach under Nick Mallett, who replaced the more attacking, some would say more naive, Carel

Du Plesis as coach, just over a year ago. Like Australia, South Africa has taken a forward-dominated app

Both teams are happy to play a smashmouth type of rugby. Pounding away with their forwards until the opponents wear down or cave in, throwing the ball to the backs only when it is clear that the opposing defense is out of position. Both teams habitually make multiple substitutions in the pack in the second half, to exploit the depths of experience and strength they have on the bench.

has the mental and physical strength to make this approach work. It scored two late tries to beat New Zealand, 24-23, in Durban in August and did the same to beat Wales, 28-20, at Wembley last month. This approach cuts down on risks, but it also reduces scoring. That can allow less powerful opponents to hang on in the game and give them a gambler's chance of an upset. Wales abandoned caution against South Africa and was nearly rewarded with a victory.

The forward-dominated tactics also seemed to make little sense against England. South Africa beat England, 29-11, at Twickenham in November last year. A comparison of the two England teams one year apart — reveals where England's problems lie. In the pack, the front row and back row were unchanged. But behind the halfbacks, all five players had changed. Although it has more rugby players than any other nation, England struggles to find backs who are either fast or creative, let alone both.

On Saturday, the most glaring disparity between the two teams was at fullback. But South Africa hardly brought the explosive Percy Montomery into the game and rarely tested England's Nick Beal, even though he dropped three of the balls kicked at him and had three kicks of his own blocked.

On one of the few occasions that South Africa moved the ball wide. Pieter Rossouw, a winger, effortlessly sidestepped Beal to touch down and give his team an early lead.

After that, England's forwards penned South Africa in its own half. The stilted passing of the England's backs frequently undermined their team's scoring chances. With England's forwards 10 yards from South Africa's line on the right wing, Mike Catt, the England flyhalf, got around the problem by kicking the ball right across the field. Dan Luger, England's left wing, outjumped Stefan Terblanche and knocked the ball to Jeremy Guscott, who touched down. Guscott, 33 and injury prone, also scored England's only try as it lost, 12-11, to Australia the previous week. Coach Clive Woodward might want to wrap him in tissue paper for the next 11 months.

England made its territorial advantage count with penalty kicks. Matt Dawson, the scrumhalf, took over from Cart, whose miss cost England victory against Australia, and made three of his four kicks to give England a six-point lead.

'Our forwards were fantastic,' Woodward said.

As time ticked away, the English pack held on to the ball and drove the South African forwards backward. Only a careless infringement a few vards from th South African goal line gave the Springboks the ball back. With no alternative, Adrian Venter launched a daring counterattack. In the blink of an eye, the South Africans gained 80 yards, and only a diving lunge by Luger, England's last defender, stopped the ball from reaching Terblanche and prevented a try.

 In Edinburgh, Kenny Logan scored five tries as Scotland crushed Spain, 85-3, in a World Cup qualifying game.

Late Goal Gives Newcastle Draw With Middlesbrough

Nikos Dabizas came off the bench eight minutes from the end Sunday and cored a minute later as Newcastle in the 74th minute to keep Aston Villa gained a 2-2 draw at Middlesbrough. on top of the English premier league.

Dabizas beat Mark Schwarzer, the The goal caraed Villa a 1-1 draw with Middlesbrough goalie, with a long, looping header to earn his team a point in the English Premier league.

Neither team moved in the standings. with Middlesbrough remaining seventh and Newcastle 13th. Paul Gascoigne, who started his ca-reer with Newcastle, set up the first

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. .

Middlesbrough goal with a clever corner kick to the unmarked Andy Townsend, who scored from 15 me-

Newcastle leveled in the 38th minute with a powerful drive from Laurent Charvet Middlesbrough regained the

lead with Colin Cooper's deflected shot in the 59th minute.

On Saturday, Julian Joachim scored on top of the English premier league.
The goal carned Villa a 1-1 draw with
Manchester United, which stayed in
second place Paul Scholes had given
Duited the lead.

Leeds United heat West Ham, 4-0, to vank into third place. Arsenal, the defending league champion, drew 0-0 with Derby and is now in fourth place. Westnam slipped to fifth.

Chelsea stayed unbeaten since the opening day of the league season with a goalless draw at Everton after both sides were reduced to 10 men. Dennis Wise of Chelsea, who has just returned from suspension, was sent off, along with an Everton defender, Richard Dunne.

GERMANY Markus Schroth scored both goals Sunday as 1860 Munich climbed to third in the Bundesliga with a 2-0 victory over visiting Borussia Schroth, rarely used in the starting

line-up, scored the first goal in the 31st minute and added the second with a header in the 82d. On Saturday, Ulf Kirsten scored twice as Bayer Leverkusen beat Wolfs-

burg, 3-0, to leap into first place in the Bundesliga. Leverkusen joined Bayern Munich at 35 points and took first place on goal

difference. Bayern, which drew, 2-2, at VfL Bochum on Friday, has played one fewer game, Leverkusen and Bayern meet Saturday in Munich.

The Nigerian Jonathan Akpoborie scored three times to give troubled

Stuttgart a 3-1 victory over Hamburg. Stuttgart, whose coach, Winfried Schaefer, resigned Friday, had not won in its last five league matches.

AMERICAS D.C. United beat Vasco

da Gama of Brazil, 2-0, Saturday in Fort Landerdale, Florida, to win the Inter-American Cup club championship of North and South America. Vasco won the opener of the two-

game series, 1-0, three weeks ago at the run up to the World Cup. RFK Stadium.

The midfielder Tony Sanneh gave United a 1-0 lead with a sliding goal in the 34th minute. Then, with about 13 minutes remaining, the defender Eddie Pope knocked in Roy Lassiter's cross-

ing volley for the winning goal.

Vasco lost the world club championship to Real Madrid, 2-1, in Tokyo on (Reuters, WP)

SCOREBOARD

GAMES ICEHOCKEY

NHL Standings

W L T Pt 5F 6A 12 16 5 29 72 64 1 10 6 22 58 65 1 13 3 19 55 69

Los Arquies 6 17 3 15 55 76

N.Y. Implicate Research 8 1 4-5

Westington 8 1 4-5

First Pariade Noon. Second Period: New York, Reichal 7 (Chard) 2, W-Kles 2 (Issness) 4. W. Johansson 2 (Issness) 5, W-Bonder 17 (Traceri) (26). 6

W-Kenovstichek 2 (Harster) (26). 5

W-Kenovstichek 2 (Harster) (26). 6

W-Kenovstichek 2

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Khohibolin, C-Moss.

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Las Angelet

First Particl: O-Fedorov 7 (Brown,
Eriksson) 840-2. D-Yermon 11 (McCorty,
Depper) 1, D-, Shomehom 12 (Yzermon,
Eriksson) 3access Period. LA-Formon 5
(Marray, Robindille) 5, LA-Robindille 12
(Murray, Stumpel) (np), 6, LA-O'Dorneel 1,
(Stumpel, Columnon), Talvi Period.

D-12-20-32-45, LA-9-13-5-27, Goeffen:
I-Oegood 10-7-2, LA-First.

FOOTBALL U.S. COLLEGE SCORES

No., 1 Tempessee (12-0) def. No. 22 Miss. St. No. 1 Technessee (12-Q del. No. 22 Miss. St. Q-Q 24-14. No. 2 Kompes St. (11-7) lost to No. 10 Technes A&M (11-2) 36-23, 207. No. 3 UCLA (16-7) lost to Mismal 49-45. No. 17 Air Force (11-1) del. B. Young 20-13.

BASKETBALL

U.S. COLLEGE SCORES TABBING COLUMNS

TOURNAMENTS PRINTS

769-28
No. 1. Coup. (4-th dal. No. 7 Mich. St. (4-3) 82-68.
No. 3. N. Carviline (3-1) lost to Coll. of Charleston 66-64.
No. 4. Dulta (7-1) det, N. Caroline St. 89-69.
No. 6. Cincinnati (5-th dat. Dultand. Alich. 106-78.
No. 7. Kensus (5-1) det, Pepperaline 62-55.
No. 18. Kentucky (7-1) det, Alicani 74-65.
No. 18. Tempin (4-3) lost to No. 16 Indiana (3-1) 63-62.
No. 1. Objekana St. (4-2) lost to No. 18

77 63-462.
No. 11. Oktoberno St. (4-2) lost to No. 18 UCLA (4-2) 69-66.
No. 12. Syructuse (7-1) def. Senta Clara 95-75.
No. 12. Arizona (4-2) def. Wyoming 94-94.
No. 14. Provide (7-1) def. No. 22 Xenter (5-2) 71-57.
No. 15. Washington (4-2) lost to Baise St. 69-61.
No. 15. Arizonas (3-2) lost to Dicknotros 87-57.
No. 21. Utah (4-2) def. Long Beach St. 61-54.
No. 22. Arizonas (6-2) def. Bostoc Col. 74-55.
LEADSTON. 66-20 def. Bostoc Col. 74-55.

All Johnstone & Charleson Third Purists

All Johnstone & Charleson Tolking Purists

All Johnstone & Charleson T ((Enois 53, Brackey 48 Indiana St. 7), N. Josea 58 Missouri 68, idaho 40 Notre Deute 83. Cent. Michigen 56
Teinde 64: Othe St. 63
Velgereite 64. Missouri Konsos Cit
Wisconsin 71, Illinois St. 54
Artons St. 79, UNIL V 70

> MONEN TOP 25

Artizon St. 79, UNLL V 79
Colifornio 71, Rhade Island 64
Colorado 90, Idato St. 63
Colorado St. 64 Ulah St. 61
Houston 60, Sacramento St. 61
Lopala Marymoriti 94, San Dilego St. 64
Oregan 93, Brightom Young 62
Portigand St. 88, Air Force 79
San Dilego 61, Teyro 57.

AMERITAS CLASSIC Army 34, Harry 30 Manuschasetts 27, Lehigh 21 Georgia Southern 52, Connecticut 30 Nebrosko 60, Colgolo 48, eLUE a GOLD COCA-COLA CLASSIC Tribs 67, Marquette 51 CARRIER CLASSIC Onle U. 78, IL-Chicago 69 CYCLONE CHALLENGE CYCLONE CHALLENGE
long St. 29, W. Illinois 72, OT
FREST MERCHANT DAME-CVC CLASSIC
Boll St. 65, Jucksonville 47
HANNEYE BYNTATIONAL
JONE 61, Delmil 60

SWIDAY RESULTS
TYPE 2.5

No. 3. N. Caroling (3-4) def. Old Deminion 63-61.
No. 1.2 Syrucuse (4-1) lost to Ohio U, 61-55. NORTHWESTERN NUTUAL CLASSIC Son Francisco 67, Waber St. 60 PIZZA HUT CLARSIC SW Aliebouri St. 86, Louisiano Tech 60 Georgia 63, Februari 47
South Combine 55, Coll. of Charleston 44
Minnesolo 77, Frenno St. 65
Oregon St. 74, Art. - Pine Blast 64 TOM ROBERSON CLASSIC
Jacksonville St. 78, Brewton Parker 49 en Cal 79, UC Scale Berbaro 73 PRODE RESULTS

No. 2 Leuisiana Tech (4-17) dei. No. 18 Iowa
SI: (4-17) 89-60.
No. 4 Pargiae (4-1) dei. N. Illinois 83-55.

No. 15 Virginia (4-2) def. Works Forest 65-45.

No. 19 Kansas (5-3) def. Maryland E. Shore 75-47.

SATURDAY RESULTS

No. 1 Commedicat (4-0) def. Rhode I. 88-42.
No. 5 Georgia (5-0) def. Alcord 51. 91-51.
No. 7 Als. (7-8) def. No. 6 OM Demission (5-1) 79-68.
No. 9 N. Carolina (9-1) def. Fig. 51. 112-101. OTNo. 18 UCLA (5-2) def. Cal State-Fullerion 94-45.
No. 12 Calerado St. (10-6) def. Weber 51. 72-57.
No. 13 Arbussus (6-3) lost to No. 22 G. WestIndian (5-1) 74-56.

Saturna (5-1) def. Price 2 Inn.
10 Work (7-Neuron, U.S.
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10 Work (7-Neuron, U.S.
10 Work (7-Neuron, U.S.
11 Perryk, U.S.
12 Calerado St. (10-6) def. Weber 51. 72-57.
No. 13 Arbussus (6-3) lost to No. 22 G. WestIndian (5-1) 74-56.

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2 Gary Player Country Club course in Sun
67-68-72-66-73
72-66-73-66-213
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17 Work (7-Neuron, U.S.
18 Work (7-Neuron, U.S.
19 Work (7-N SATURDAY RESULTS
No. 1 Counsellict (6-0) def. Rhode I. 88-42.
No. 5 Georgia (5-0) def. Alcum St. 91-51.
No. 7 Abs. (7-0) def. No. 8 dill Dominion (5-1) 76-62.
No. 9 N. Crowline (9-1) def. Fig. St. 112-101, OT.
No. 10 UCLA (5-2) def. Cal State-Fullerion 94-64.
No. 11 Rothysers (4-2) lest to Ohlo St. 61-58.
No. 12 Caleranto St. (10-0) def. Weber St. 27-57.
No. 13 Artumens (6-3) lost to No. 22 G. Wustingerion (1) 74-64.

No. 12 Argumess (6-4) Notri to No. 22 G. Wusse-legion (5-1) 74-56. No. 14 Texas Tech (5-1) dei, Wisconsin 84-70. No. 17 N. Caralles St. G-6 legito Ga. Tech 74-72. No. 19 Kensen (4-0) dei. Butler 95-62. No. 21 Florido (8-2) del. SW Texas St. 89-47. No. 25 Cleassen (7-6) dei. Moryland 89-48. CRICKET

BOEDER VS. WEST BEDIEF

THIREE-DAY MATCH, THERD DAY SURDAY IN EAST, CARDON, SOUTH AFRICA Borden, 282-9 declared, 340-8 declared West findles: 356. Match and and a Match ended in a drow. LARGE CITY C.A. VS. ZIMBABWE FOUR-DAY MATCH, THREE DAY SURDAY IN LAHORE, PAIGSTAN

Zimbobure: 394 and 211-5. Lahore City Cricket Assoc: 287-9 declared. VICTORIA VS. ENGLAND UN-DAY HATCH, SECOND DAY SUNDAY IN HELBOURNE Englishd: 373 Victoria: 177-5

GOLF

AUSTRALIAN OPEN First scores Sundey in \$640,000
Austrelian Open on the 7,178-yard, par-72
Royal Adelhide Golf Club courses
Greg Chaimers. Aus.
57-72-72-299
Peter Senior, Aus.
70-73-76-70-299 Stuart Appleby, Aus.
Peter Senitor, Aus.
Robert Allenby, Aus.
Nick Faldo, England
Rodney Pampling, Avs.
Peter C'Malley, Aus. Peter Senior, AUS.
Robert Allenby, Rus.
Rick Fallenby, Rus.
Rick England
Rodney Pampiling, AVS.
Peter O'Molley, Aus.
Whyne Rick, Aus.
Stephen Scalil, N. Zedi.
70-73-75-74-291
71-71-73-292
73-74-75-71-293
73-74-75-73-294

MILLION DOLLAR CHALLENGE Final Sunday in the Million Dollar Golf Hallenge at 7,587-yard (6,547-meter), per-

and the first of the second se

SKIING World Cup

SATURDAY IN MAMINOTH MOUNTAIN, CALF. WOMEN'S SUPER-0 1. Ch. Millerwaliner, Austria, 1 min., 15.64 s. 2. Renate Goetechi, Austria, 1:15.69. 3. Morting Erit, Germany, 1:15-73. Lisoide Kostner, Holy, 1:16.20.

4. Isolde Kostner, Italy, 1:16:20.
5. Sibyte Browner, Germony, 1:16:24.
6. Corinne Rey Bellet, Switzerland, 1:16:32.
Alexandra Melssnitzer, Austria, 1:16:32.
9. Regine Cavagnoud, France, 1:16:33.
10. Ingeborg Helen Marken, Nor., 1:16:50. **SUPER-O (attor 2 recen):** 1. Meissnitzer, 4) points: 2. Christiane Mitterwaliner, 100: 3. Perniting Wheety, Sweden, and Goelschi, Bits 7. Kostner, 72: 6. Hikle Gerg, Germany, 68: 7. Eril, 60: 8. Covagnoud, 53: 9. Markenna Sal-chinger, Austria, 52: 10. Browner, 51.

OVERALL (after 8 eventu): 1. Melss-nitter, 425: 2. Eril, 303: 3. Goetschi, 294 4. Kastner, 222; S. Wiberg, 187; č. Anja Paerson, Sweden, 184; 7. Cavagnoud. 165; 8. Andrine Fleatmen. Norway, 158; 9. Janica Kastelic, Crastia, 147; 18. Gerg. 146. SOCCER

Surres peet privision Feyencord 1, NEC Nilmogen 0 Sparts Ratherdom 1, Legowarden 2 Ajax Amsterdom 1, AVV Maassicht 1 NAC Brada 3, PSV Eindhoven 4 AZ Alionaer I, Twente Enschede I Uhrecht 2 Groafschap Doetinchem I Kerlande vs. Heerenven postponer Willem II Tiburg 3, Vitesse Amhem STANDSHOOS: Feyencord 38 points: Ambum 32: Ajox 32: Heeronvoon 31: Enschede 29; Kerkrude 27; Eindhoven Nijmegen 26; Alicmator 24; Tilburg 22; Ufm 22; Magshicht 18; Leeuwarden 18; Dos

22: Magskicht 19; Leeuwerden chem 17; Silburd 13; Sporta Ro Bredo 10; Woolwijk 4.

Middlesbrough 2, Newcostle United 2 Asign Villa 1, Monchester United 1 Blackburn 1, Charling 0 Derby 6, Arsenal 0 Blockburs ...
Deby G. Arsend O
Everton G. Chelsen O
Leeds 4. West Hom O
Leicester 2. Southampton f
O Tottenham 2. Liverpool 1
Wimbledon 2. Coventry I
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Assorting Coventry I
Assorting Coventry I

Wimbledon 2. Coventry I \$TAMBURGE: Aston Villa 30 points: Manchester United 29: Leeds 26 Arsenal 26: West Hom 26: Chelsen 25: Middlesbrough 24: Wimbledon 25: Liveosot 25: Only 25: To-tetham 25: Leicsster 21: Newcostle 26: Ever-ton 19: Sheffiold Wednesday 16: Chartion 16: Coventry 13: Blackburn 12: Notlingham Forest 11: Southampton 10:

Forest 11; Southampton 10.

FIRENCEN FREST DEVENDON

Sochaux Q, Lorient 1

RC Lents 2, Strasbourg 0

Paris St Germain Q, Taulouse 0

Nandos 2, Bostia 0

Mondpellier 2. Le Havre 0

Matz Q, Remas 0

STANDINGE: Bordeaux 38 points; Marsellie 38 Rennes 28: Monaco 27: Lyon 27: Nandes 26: Paris-St Germain 24: Montpellier 2.4; Lents 26: Bastia 25: Auzerte 25: Strasbourg 21; Nancy 20: Metz 19; Le Havre 15: Lorient 14: Sochaux 14: Toulouse 13.

STALLAN FIRST DEVENDORS

ITALIAN FIRST DIVISION Cogillari C. Vene Juventus G. Lozio 1 AC Milon 3. Udinese

\$7ANDBOGS: Horeman 25 points; from 25 Porma 25 MBm 71; inter MBm 18; ul-ventus 18; Bologna 17; Lazio 17; Udinose 16; Barl 15; Perugio 15; Coglian 14; Sampdoria 13; Piccarzo 12; Engol 12; Vicanzo 11; Salembana 11; Venezio 9. German Sunderliga

Nuremberg 2, Hansa Rostock 2
Bochism 2, Bayers Munich 2
Elminacht Frankfurf 1, Schaller 2
Bryer Leverkusen 3, Welfsburg 0
Stuttgart 3, Homburger SV 1
Duisburg vs. Kabenskutern. ppd.
Heritta Berilin vs. Freiburg, ppd.
Moenchenglodboch vs. Bremen, pp Hentre Bernn vs. - resourg, pps.
Megechengladboch vs. Bermen, ppd.
1860 Munich 2. Borussia Dortmund 0
STANDHISON: Boyer Leverhusen 35
points: Boyern Munich 35: 1860 Munich 36:
Keiseskurtern 35; Boryssia: Dortmund 25;
Weitsburg 24: Herita Berlin 25; Hornburg 21; Stuffgerf 20; Bochum 18: Freiburg 18; Schalke 17; Bramen 14; Einfracht Frankfurf 14: Duisburg 15; Nuremberg 15; Radock 12; Moenchengladbach 9.

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE Hearts 2 Cellic 1 . rous a & Lunk. I Dunniee United 1, St. Johnstone Klimarnock 4, Aberdeen 0 Motherwell vs. Dundee, ppd. Rongers 1, Duntermilne 1

Atletico Modrid Q, Athletic Bibbo 0 Matheron J, Royl Bells 0 dod 2. Extre Espanyol C, Real Madri Departivo Coruna 2. Bar lamanca I. Celta Vigo I lareai 2. Voliadolid I

Aloves G, Votencio I
Tenerife I, Zorogozo I
erralitzuiteas: Mallorco 25: Deportivo Coring 23: Celto 22: Votencio 22: Afterioz Madrid 21: Zorogozo 20: Reel Modrid 19: Borcolomo 19: Real Sociedad 19: Ovieda 18: Attiletic Bibbos 17: Bellis 17: Villorreal 15: Racing
18: Volletidid 15: Solumono 15: Esportul
18: Volletidid 15: Solumono 16: Esportul 14: Valladalid 15: Salamenco 15: Esp 13: Alaves 12: Tenerife 11: Extremadua

AFESCAN CUP WITCHIES' CUP lero Agosto, Ang., 1. Esperance, 7a perunce won 4-2 on oggregate. INTERAMERICAN CUI

SQUASH WORLD OPEN FINAL
Janothan Power (2), Canada, del. Peter
Nicol (1), Scatland 15-17, 15-7, 15-9, 15-10.

TENNIS **DAVIS CUP** IN MILAN, ITALY ITALY 1, SWEDEN 4

Johas Bjorkman and Nicklas Kulti, Sweden def. Diego Nargisa and Davide San-

uca Pazzi Naty, 6-4, 6-2, Nargisa, del. Magnus Norman, Swe., 6-2, 6-3.

TRANSITIONS BASSBALL

HOCKEY NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
MHL—Fined Philodelphic C Eric Lindren \$1,000 for stashing incident opo Jay McKee in Dec. 4. game.

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المجالية بمنازه

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1. 4 Aug

Price Holds On

GOLF Nick Price held off a charge by Tiger Woods to win his third Million Dollar Challenge Sunday after a five-hole playoff in Sun City, South Africa.

Price birdied the 409-yard, par-four 17th for his third victory at the tournament. Woods, whose ball was just off the edge of the green. two-putted the hole. Both men had finished on 15-under at 273.

Woods started the day four strokes back but charged on the back nine. He birdied the 17th and 18th holes. Price was up a stroke at the final hole but he two-putted for par.

Justin Leonard finished third, a stroke behind. Lee Westwood, the overnight leader, shot a 73, and finished with a total of 276, tied for fourth with Mark O'Meara (AP)]

Soccer Deaths Investigated

DRUGS Raffaele Guariniello, a Turin prosecutor, said he was looking into the deaths of 45 soccer players which may be related to the use of performance-enhancing drugs, according to Italian news

Guariniello, who has been questioning dozens of soccer figures during his investigation, was looking into the alleged use of drugs by a number of players who died of

The Rome daily La Repubblica wrote Sunday that Guariniello was investigating suspect, premature deaths of at least 45 Italian first and second division players over the

WORLD ROUNDUP Late Goal by Silvestre Earns Inter a Draw

Feyenoord Wins at Home; Mallorca Triumphs

Michael Silvestre spared Mircea Lucescu a losing start as coach of Inter Milan, scoring a goal in the final seconds at Vicenza on Sunday to earn his team a 1-1 draw

Silvestre came off the bench to score, and while his goal may have canceled out Pasquale Luiso's 20th-minute penalty, it did not erase the memory of inter players losing their cool. Taribo West, a

EUROPEAN SOCCIE

defender, angrily threw his shirt to the ground when taken off and Ivan Zamorano, a striker, was dismissed for kicking

ап орропепт. Nevertheless, Inter's hard-earned point was enough to edge it into fifthplace ahead of Juventus, which lost, 1-0, at home to Lazio. Marcelo Salas scored the winning goal for the Rome team with nine minutes to play.

Juve, which must beat Rosenborg on Wednesday to have a chance of qualifying for the quarterfinals of the European Cup, has not won in five league matches and has failed to score in its last

Both Juve and Inter, which finished first and second in last season's title race, are seven points adrift of the Serie A leader. Fiorentina - which halted Bologna's 16-match unbeaten run with a 1-0 victory Saturday.

AC Milan, which lost 4-0 at Parma the previous week, beat Udinese, 3-0. Oliver Bierhoff, a German striker,

brought his eight-match goal drought to a halt with a tally against his former club. George Weah and Leonardo, with a superb voiley, scored the other goals to keep Milan fourth, a point behind AS Roma and Parma, which both won Sat-

NETHERLANDS Feyenoord, the Dutch league leader, gained a fortunate, 1-0 home victory Sunday when Luc Maes, a Nijmegen defender, put the ball into his own net with three minutes to play. Feyenoord stretched its lead to six points over Vitesse Arnhem, which won, 5-3, at Willem II Tilburg on Fri-

day, and Ajax Amsterdam, which drew 1-1 at home to Maastricht on Sunday.
Feyenoord had the best of its game
but struggled to find a way through a
resolute Nijmegen defense until Maes deflected a free kick by Patrick Paauwe.

Ajax also left it late, as a free kick by Sunday Oliseh in the 83d minute se-

Keneth Perez had opened the scoring four minutes into the second half as Maastricht seemed on course for its first victory in Amsterdam for 18 years.
PSV Eindhoven won, 4-3, at NAC

Breda on Sunday to climb to seventh. SPAIN Dani Garcia scored in the 82d minute Saturday to give Mallorca a 1-0 victory at Real Betis, and increase the islanders' lead in the Spanish league to two points.

Deportivo La Coruna rose to second with a 2-1 victory at home over hapless Barcelona. It was Barcelona's third con-



Harald Cherny of 1860 Munich holding off Leonardo Dede of Dortmund.

secutive defeat.

Deportivo went into the lead when Africa's newly crowned Footballer of the Year, Mustapha Hadji, scored in the

Rivaldo slotted in a penalty in the 88th minute to level but Francisco Fran . a late equalizer.

dealt the hammer blow on the whistle. Celta Vigo slipped to third after being held to a 1-1 draw away to Salamanca. Vigo got off to a bright start when Mazinho put them ahead in the fifth minute. Cardetti saved Salamanca with

The Bills to 33-20 Victory Over Bengals

The Associated Press CINCINNATI - Doug Flutie and Eric Moulds gave an already restless

crowd plenty to boo.
Flutic and Moulds hooked up on the yard touchdown that changed the game's momentum late in the first half, then put the Buffalo Bills in control with

NFL ROUNDUP

a 30-yard touchdown that sealed a 33-20 victory Sunday over the Cincinna Bengals.

The Bills (8-5) got their eighth ris tory in 10 games and remained in 69 thick of the AFC East race by picking apart the NFL's lowest-rated defense in front of thousands of disgruntled fans.
The Bengals (2-11) lost their eighth

in a row — their longest losing streak since 1994 — while about two dozen banners demanding change fluttered in the December wind. Flutie directed an offense that scored

in every quarter and moved the hall consistently. He completed 18-of-319 yards - his second straight 300yard game - and was intercepted a season-high three times. Flutie and Moulds set the tone on the

first play of the game, when the thirdyear receiver ran past Ashley Ambrose :: and caught a 55-yard pass in stride to set up Antowain Smith's 1-yard touch-

Neil O'Donnell, starting for the first time in three games, soothed the fans and stunned the Bills by throwing a pair of touchdown passes in the second quarter for the Bengals' first lead in 17 quarters. But it didn't survive the half. Flutie and Moulds beat a blitz and turned the

game with their 70-yard touchdown with 1:41 left. Moulds broke clear on a short slant, avoided two diving defensive backs as he sprinted up the middle, then bounced off comerback Ashley Ambrose on his

way to the end zone. Falcons 26, Colts 21 Chris Chandler. the Atlanta quarterback who was sidelined last week with a sprained right for two more as the Falcons rallied from 14 points down to win their sixth

straight game. Chandler shook off five sacks to complete 20-of-28 for 297 yards, his best game in two years with Atlanta. The NFC West-leading Falcons (11-2), who trailed 14-0 and 21-7, went ahead by scoring three touchdowns in just over a three-minute span at the end of the first

half and beginning the second

• In other games: The New Orleans
Saints routed the Dallas Cowboys, 22-3; the New York Jets downed the Seattle Seahawks, 32-31; the Washington Redskins beat the San Diego Chargers, 24-20; the Jacksonville Jaguars upended the Detroit Lions, 37-22; the San Francisco 49ers beat the Carolina Panthers 32-28, and the New England Patriots drubbed the Pittsburgh Steelers, 22

Swedes Unite for Davis Cup Victory, and Defeat Divides Italians

By Christopher Clarey

MILAN - The suspense did not last long in Lombardy, and when it ended with Jonas Bjorkman gleefully grabbing doubles partner Nicklas Kulti for the second year in a row, the Swedes were united and their opponents divided.

Cup rewards unity, and Sweden has been rewarded more than any other nation since the 16-team World Group was formed in 1981. They have won six of their seven titles during that span, more than the Americans, the Australians or any of the other teams with longer but not deeper connections to the competition that Dwight Davis started in 1900.

'Yes, the Swedes do have good singles players, but their biggest weapon is their harmony, their chemistry," said Boris Becker, whose German squad lost to them in the quarterfinals this year.

Becker was watching from the stands here Saturday as Bjorkman and Kulti gave Sweden an insurmountable 3-0 lead over Italy by defeating Diego Nargiso and Davide Sanguinetti in straight sets. Sweden would end up winning, 4-1.

"We are always going to play Davis Cup because we feel it's great for us, and it's something we all really enjoy, Bjorkman said recently. "But it would be even better if we had the chance to

beat the best." The best, namely Pete Sampras of the United States, did not play the Davis Cup this year, but it is worth rememand the Americans 5-0 in the final last year in Gothenburg.

This time, they had to settle for beating the much less imposing and rec-ognizable Italians. The Swedish singles players were different. Last December, they were Bjorkman and Magnus Larsson. This December, they were Magnus Norman and Magnus Gustafsson. But the formula was the same:

camaraderie plus comedy. The Swedes, despite their often straight faces in public, are committed pranksters. While they were training for this final on clay in Monaco, Bjorkman and Kulti hatched a plot against their captain, Carl-Axel (Calle) Hageskog, and Anders Jarryd, the assistant captain. A telephone call was placed, and Hageskog was informed that Prince Al-

bert of Monaco had requested his team's

company for an evening at the palace.

"The best part was when we came up to the palace, and Calle is walking into it like he is this proud matador," Gustafsson said. "Then the guard jumps out and says, 'You can't pass here.' And Calle points at the castle and makes the best comment of the week: 'But he invited us to dinner.' I think we were all scared to say something at that point, but finally we had to say something

They were laughing again Sunday as they gathered around the silver cup and sprayed champagne on each other after splitting the meaningless reverse

ngles matches with the Italians. The hosts were not quite as light-hearted. After a charmed Davis Cup run. their luck ran out in Milan. There is tension between the players, who want Paolo Bertolucci to be rehired as captain for next year, and the Italian federation. which has yet to announce its decision.

There was also an exchange between the top Italian player, Andrea Gaudenzi, and the Italian federation president, Francesco Ricci Bitti. On Friday night, Gaudenzi retired from his opening match in Milan at 6-6 in the fifth set after reinjuring his fragile right shoulder. He later expressed disappointment that Ricci

his match from countside and had not called him to check on his condition or congratulate him for his effort.

"Andrea thinks he's like Ronaldo. but for me he's like Colonnese," said Ricci Bitti, referring to one of the soccer star Ronaldo's lesser-known Inter Mitioned the severity of Gaudenzi's injury, saying the player went to a discotheque Friday night.

There was more tension during news conference Sunday in which Ricci Bittì again declined to give Bertolucci a vote of confidence. His final decision is not expected to be announced until next year, and it is hardly the only pending decision that will affect the Davis Cup.

The International Tennis Federation, which oversees the competition, is con-sidering a change in the format of the event, which will complete its first century in 1999. There are thoughts about making it more spectator-friendly and,

above all, more television-friendly. Best-of-five-set matches are difficult for programmers to schedule because their length can vary greatly. And with

television revenue set to drop when a

Bitti and the national technical director, lucrative German television contract ex-Adriano Panatta, had not watched all of pires at the end of next year, there is an pires at the end of next year, there is an incentive for change.

On Friday night, Swedish public television cut away from the nearly five-hour opening match between Norman and Gaudenzi with Norman leading 5-4 in the final set to broadcast a regional news program, so Swedish viewers did matic victory live.

Cutting the opening singles matches to best-of-three sets or introducing a fifth-set tiebreaker are two options being considered. So is the possibility of playing best-of-three for the first two rounds of the Davis Cup and best-of-five for the semifinal and final rounds. Introducing no-advantage scoring is a more radical option. There is also discussion of cutting the World Group to 14 teams and giving the finalists a first-round bye the next year to lighten the schednling de-

mands on top players. Whatever changes are made cannot be put in place until 2000. Next year's format and schedule are already set, and the Swedes, still united and still excited, remain very much the team to beat.
"We want three in a row," Gus-

tafsson said.



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